Dip

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
DEC 26 1893

No 1730.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 16 1933
RECEIVED

2nd ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack. by Number and File.
[Need not copy to Mr. Griggs]
DEC 23 1893 aca

Legation of the United States.

Peking, September 2nd, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The Sungpu murders.

Synopsis

Encloses copy of the last communication of the foreign representatives to the Yamên.

Two enclosures.

No 1730.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, September 2nd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1725 of the 21st ultimo, I enclosed a translation of the answer of the Tsungli Yamên to my communication, as Dean, touching the recent Sungpu murders.

By the direction of my colleagues, I have sent to the Yamên a reply to their

communication

1/1730 of which a copy is enclosed.

I enclose, also, a clipping from the North China Daily

2/1730 News, which presents forcibly the generally received opinion of foreigners in China.

The language used by me as representative of the diplomatic body may strike you as stronger than the occasion warranted, but it contains the thoughtful and deliberate judgement of all my colleagues, who individually approved in writing the contents of the paper.

It is of the highest importance to stop, if possible, at the beginning, riots which are

now

now impending on the Yangtze.
All along that river there is
a state of anti-foreign excitement
which must be repressed or
deplorable results will ensue.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Denby to the Tsung-li Yamên, No. 15. September 2d 1893.
2. Clipping fr. the North China Daily News, August 23rd, 1893.

4 Enclosure 1 in No 1730

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamen.

No 15- September August 2d 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

As Dean of the Diplomatic Body, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th instant, relating to the recent murder of two Swedes at Tungpu — Messrs Ukvolom and Johanneson. My Colleagues have directed me to make the following reply.

The statement that the two foreigners had guards employed and that these guards arrested some villagers, and the people became incensed thereby, is one of which we have no information. While we are absolutely ignorant of this alleged fact, it appears to us so extraordinary and so

Contrary

contrary to the attitude of these poor missionaries, who allowed themselves to be slaughtered without even attempting to defend themselves, that we cannot admit the existence and the intervention of these guards, to whom the poverty of the missionaries, and especially their principles forbade them to have recourse.

The riot which resulted in the murder of the two Swedes lasted several hours. It commenced in the morning and terminated at two o'clock. During all this time no hand was raised to protect them. It is a matter of surprise and regret that, in view of the plain facts of this revolting case, Your Highness and Your Excellencies permit yourselves to say "the action "taken by the officials of Yozgat "—high and low— in this case,

has

"has been befitting and proper."

If the highest authority in China can deliberately applaud the conduct of officials who did not raise a hand to prevent the murder of two foreigners, then, the only hope of protection remaining for foreigners, in spite of the imperial edict, is to protect themselves. We shall feel it our duty to so inform our respective governments.

We burk aside as irelevant the various excuses brought forward to screen guilty officials. We cannot admit that the local officials do their whole duty when they inform foreigners that there is danger in their remaining in particular localities and desire them to leave and go elsewhere. Their duty is to afford protection when they are able to do so. If they can escape the performance of their duty

by

by simply advising foreigners to leave, it is to be apprehended that few, if any, foreigners would be suffered to remain anywhere outside of the treaty ports.

The activity and energy of the officials are always displayed in putting down any riot which is directed against the government. Why cannot these qualities be shown in preventing the murder of foreigners by mobs? It is difficult to avoid the belief that these often recurring riots are not reprehended by the officials but are, on the other hand, encouraged.

The energy and ability of the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung are known of all men, yet it is in the two provinces under his control that almost incessant attacks on foreigners take place. Why is this?

Your

Your Highness and Your Excellencies say "Mr. Consul-General Bock is familiar with "the circumstances of the case, hence "there is no need to go into any "discussion about it here."

The Foreign Representatives have no desire to intrude on the particular sphere of duty of Consul-General Bock. All men know that the populace does not distinguish between the nationality of foreigners. Riots are never directed against the persons of any one nationality only, but they are directed against all foreigners alike. Each case is a precedent for other disorders. Unless prompt punishment be awarded to negligent officials, the populace will believe that crimes against foreigners are encouraged, or at least winked at by the officials.

We have made representations

to

to Your Highness and Your Excellencies in this matter because we believe that, unless crimes against foreigners are punished when they occur, there will not be adequate safety for foreigners in China. We have so acted in the interest as well of China as in that of our own nationals.

The Foreign Representatives renew their demand that the officials who failed to do their duty at Taiyuanfu, and the ringleaders of the mob be severely punished.

Enclosure 2 in No

The
North-China Daily News.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, 23rd AUGUST, 1893.

THE despatches from Colonel Denby, the *Doyen* of the Diplomatic Body at Peking, to Mr. John Macgregor, the Chairman of the Municipal Council of Shanghai, published with the Municipal Council Minutes in another column, will be read with general interest and satisfaction. We have already given the substance of the former of the two despatches, and it is now most gratifying to find that the Shanghai public meeting to consider the Sungpu massacre was not a *brutum fulmen*, and that the eloquence of the speakers there was not wasted. Consul-General Bock acquiesced in the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung's desire that the matter should not reach the ears of Peking, but Shanghai unanimously took the matter out of his nerveless hands, and represented so effectually at Peking the enormity of the crime committed—though to the credit of Colonel Denby it must be mentioned that he had not waited for that representation to interest himself in the question—that the whole Diplomatic Body has authorised Colonel Denby in its name to address a strong remonstrance to the Tsungli Yamên, drawing attention to the Imperial Edict of the 13th of June, 1891, and demanding the punishment not only of the ringleaders of the riot in which Messrs. Wikholm and Johansson lost their lives, but of all the officials, high and low, who failed to obey the Imperial Edict above cited and who, by their culpable negligence, have permitted this atrocious crime to be committed, as well as those who organised the riot, though they did not actively participate in it. Colonel Denby and his colleagues have struck the right note and they have struck it sharply and decisively. A weaker man than the *Doyen* of the Diplomatic Body might have said that it was for the Swedish authorities to take the initiative, and that if Consul-General Bock was satisfied, it was not for the Ministers to move. But Colonel Denby and his colleagues have appreciated that it was every foreigner in China who was struck at when Wikholm and Johansson were slain, and they have rightly regarded it as an international matter. There is only one way of dealing with Orientals; to know that your demands are just, and to be firm in presenting them when you know this. The position the foreign Ministers have taken up now is unimpeachable, based as it is on the Treaties and the Imperial Edict, and we now look with interest to see what answer the Tsungli Yamên will make and which official at Hankow will be made the scapegoat. We can hardly expect to see every guilty official punished; but at least an example can be made which will convince them all that it is better for them to protect foreigners than to conspire to expel them by threats of murder, which they take care shall be carried out. Sir Frederick Bruce's co-operative policy has sometimes been a source of weakness, but the co-operative policy that Colonel Denby has applied in the present instance should be a source of strength and should make the appeal to the Tsungli Yamên irresistible. All the Powers are interested in seeing that their joint representation is not poohpoohed and attention to it deferred under various pretexts, as the representation of a single Power too often is. There is no place, too, for international jealousies to work; and all foreign residents in the interior will have cause, we hope, to heartily thank Colonel Denby and his colleagues for the sound position they have taken in the matter.

7

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 21 1893
RECEIVED

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack by subject & file
OCT 21 1893

2700

No 1731.

Legation of ~~the~~ United States.

Peking, September 9th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Chinese intervention in the

Franco-Siamese troubles

Synopsis

China will in no wise

intervene therein.

No 1731.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, September 9th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

As many reports have been circulated as to the intervention of China in the affairs of Siam, I have the honor to state that China has declared that she will, in no manner whatever, intervene in the difficulties between Siam and the French Republic. She has also

declared

declared that she will in no wise interfere in the settlement of the question of boundary between the two powers.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1732.

Legation of the United States
Peking, September 14th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 21 1893
RECEIVED

— Mr Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Statistick of trade of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China, for Second Quarter 1893. Advices having forwarded two copies to Department.

No 1732

Legation of the United States.
Peking September 14th 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to inform you that I have forwarded to the Department, under separate cover, duplicate copies of the Statistics of trade of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China for the second quarter 1893.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 21 1893
RECEIVED

OCT 21 1893

No 1733.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, September 16th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging despatches.

No 1733.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, September 15th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows: No 818 of July 25, No 819 of August 1st and No 820 of August 2nd.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DIPLOMATIC
APR 5 1894

No. 1734.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, September 19th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 2 1893
RECEIVED

Rec'd. April 6/94.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Importation of machinery.

One enclosure.

No 1734.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, September 19th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose the reply of the Yamên to my despatch, as doyen, of the 29th August last, relating to the importation of machinery, of which a copy was forwarded to you in my despatch No 1729, of the 30th August last.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your

1/1734

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby

No 14, Sept. 7th 1893.

Enclosure in No 1734.

Copy of translation.

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

No 14. September 7th 1893.

Upon the 29th of August last the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States, relating to the importation of machinery into China, wherein he stated that he had been directed by his colleagues to again address the Yamên in regard thereto.

With reference to this matter the Prince and Ministers, in their former reply, fully explained their views, and there is now no necessity to go into a lengthy discussion of it. From the general tenor of the communication under acknowledgement, the importation of machinery should not be prohibited. Is it not known

that

that there are various kinds of machinery they are not alike?

During the third moon of the present year, a Japanese merchant, or merchants, imported some hand machines into Shanghai, which were sold to Chinese. These machines were allowed to be imported. But the steam machinery refered to is for the purpose of manufacturing native products.

There are frequent cases on record where permission has been refused to foreigners to manufacture native products at the treaty ports. Such a privelege affects the means of livelihood of the populace and it is very difficult to make any compromise in the position assumed by the Yamên in the matter.

In his communication, the Minister of the United States

further

further observes that he has no doubt of the existence of the right to manufacture at the treaty ports. This view the Prince and Ministers certainly regard as a misconception of the meaning of the treaties. Again he states "We have, of course, no power to alter the treaties". It may be observed that the action taken by the Yamên is based upon cases already of record, affecting articles not enumerated in the treaties; hence how can the statement be made about altering the treaties?

In the 9th year of Kuang Hsü, the views and position assumed by the Yamên in this matter were communicated to the diplomatic body; and why should it appear necessary now for the Minister of the

United

United States to extend the discussion of it. As the class of machinery refered to is used for the purpose of manufacturing native products, for that reason its importation is prohibited, hence the clause about an ad valorem duty of five per cent mentioned in the communication cannot be regarded by the Prince and Ministers as being applicable to the case.

The prohibition against foreigners manufacturing native produce is to protect the interest and welfare of the common people, and they should not be allowed to get the better of them by encroaching on their means of existence. It is here where the statement about a monopoly would seem to apply.

It is further observed in the

communication

communication under acknowledgement
that "the common people, by
"the use of machinery, the
"history of the world proves, is
"the one that is particularly
"benefitted." This would seem
to apply to the use of machinery
by the subjects or citizens of
the country, and not to the
importation of machinery by
subjects of other countries, to
be used by them in competition
against the welfare of the
trading people of the country.

To sum up; every country
naturally exercises independent
authority in the matter of
protecting the interests of its
trading classes. The Yamen,
in discussing questions with
the foreign representatives which
are not in any way injurious
to the interests and welfare
of the trading people of China
are willing to try to meet

them

them with a spirit of
kindness and sense of
justice, but when cases come
up which are decidedly
impracticable to deal with
as desired, and to insist
that the Yamên yield assent
to the proposals made, then
the Prince and Ministers have
only to say that, in their
opinion, the principle certainly
does not exist of any country
insisting on another friendly
country to be unmindful or
inattentive of the interests of
its trading classes.

The Prince and Ministers
express the hope that the
Minister of the United States
will calmly consider the
circumstances of the case here
presented and make known
the contents of this communication
to his colleagues.

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Copy to Mr. Grip, Swedish Minister, for his information, referring to preceding cor. respondence.
NOV 2 1893
Ack by subject & file
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
DEC 22 1893

√Dec 26

Dec. 26, 1893. m

No. 1735.

√ Dec 26

Legation of the United States.

Peking, September 19th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 2 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The Sungpu murders.

One enclosure.

No 1735.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, September 19th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to

1/1735 enclose, herewith, the reply of the Yamên to my despatch of the 2nd instant, relating to the Sungpu murders, forwarded by me as doyen. A copy of the despatch to which this is a reply was forwarded in my despatch No 1730 of the 2nd September.

I

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby

No 15, Sept. 7th 1893.

Enclosure in No 1735.

Copy of translation.

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

No 15. Sept. 7th, 1893.

On the 4th Sept. the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States, in regard to the recent murder of Swedes at Sungpu, wherein he states that he brushes aside as irelevant the various excuses brought forward in the Yamen's communication (of Aug. 14th) to screen guilty officials, and unless the principal offenders and negligent officials are severely punished there will not be adequate safety for foreigners in China, and that the foreign representatives have acted in the interest as well of China as in that of their own nationals and they renew their demand that the officials who

who failed to do their duty at Sungpu and the ringleaders of the riot be severely punished.

With reference to this case, the Yamên, some time since, sent a communication to the Minister of the United States embodying the representations made by telegram from the viceroy of the Hukuang provinces. The facts and particulars presented were only submitted for the information of the foreign representatives. The Yamên did not applaud the action of the officials concerned.

As to the punishment to be meted out to the criminals and as to whether the action of the officials merited punishment or not, there are matters that naturally will be determined by China according to the code, to the end that justice may be manifested.

China

China, in her intercourse with foreign nations, has never made any distinction between the subjects and citizens of any country; they have received the same treatment. The Minister of the United States observes that each case is a precedent for others unless punishment is meted out to the guilty. This shows a sincere purpose to take precautions against calamities, a view with which the Yamên thoroughly agrees.

The Yamên has again urged the viceroy of Fukuang to lose no time in causing the apprehension of the murderers and to have them severely punished in accordance with the code.

As to the point concerning the employment of guards by the missionaries, after the affair

was

was over there men (the guards) came forward and admitted in evidence that they were so employed; it was not a fabrication of mere words without proof. Though these missionaries were poor, still at the time they took with them a number of converts of Hwang-pi in Hanyang. And if it happens that missionaries are assisted financially by converts, it should not be regarded as strange.

As to the remark that the foreign representatives cannot admit that the local officials do their whole duty when they inform foreigners that they should not remain in particular localities, and their duty is to afford protection when they are able to do so, to this the Yamen would observe that the local officials, in requesting

The

the missionaries to leave Sungpu, were actuated by a kind motive desiring to prevent any trouble or calamity. Further the Macheng magistrate deputed special messengers to invite the missionaries to move to the city where they would be near him and where he could afford them full protection. But the missionaries obstinately refused to listen to the magistrate's request, hence this unexpected affair which is certainly to be deplored.

As to the expression regarding the officials encouraging the rioters this would appear to be closely approaching an unwarranted accusation. Again a magistrate has charge of one district containing a population of several tens of thousands of inhabitants, and all within his jurisdiction must be protected alike, but there are, however,

many

many cases that occur of a capital nature. Under the laws of China, magistrates are required within a certain time to apprehend criminals. If they fail to perform the responsible duties in this respect imposed upon them, the law prescribes the infliction of a form of punishment.

The viceroy has already issued instructions to his subordinates for the arrest of the guilty, so that they may be punished with severity. He certainly has not screened them or given them improper protection.

The Yamên, in accordance with the purport of the communication under acknowledgement, have again addressed the viceroy at Wuchang to zealously take action in the premises and this communication in

reply

reply is now sent to the Minister of the United States with the request that he will communicate the contents thereof to the diplomatic representatives at Peking.

A necessary communication addressed to

His Excellency
Charles Denby
etc. etc. etc.

No 1736.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 4th, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

T. M.

— Subject —
Enclosing statement
of salary account for quarter
Ending September 30th, 1893.

No 1736. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 4th 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for salary for the quarter ended September 30th 1893.

1736.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.-

Charles Denby

Enclosure. Statement as above.

Dib

No 1737

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 4th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

T. M.

— Subject. —

Enclosing statement of Rent account for quarter ending September 30th, 1893.

———— - - - ————

No 1737. one enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for the quarter ending September 30th, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure. Statement as above.

No 1738.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 4th, 1893.

Enclosed Passport Bureau

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing statement of Passports issued at this Legation during the quarter ending September 30th, 1893.

No 1738. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States
Peking, October 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham.
Secretary of State.
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of Passports issued at this Legation during the quarter ending September 30th, 1893.

738.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure. Statement as above.

Dip

2d Assistant Secretary.
Ack. by Number and File.
NOV 20 1893

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
NOV 20 1893

No 1739.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 4th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The leave of the Second
Secretary.

Synopsis
He will remain here until
the spring. Mr. Bonsal need
not come until then.

No 1739.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In further acknowledgement of your despatch No 821, of August 18th last, wherein you inform me that leave of absence has been granted to Mr. Charles Denby Jr., Second Secretary of this Legation, subject to my approval, I am gratified to be able to state that the

Second

Second Secretary has promptly and kindly waived his right to a leave until the spring of next year, or until the arrival of the First Secretary. I will permit him to depart in the spring should he still desire to do so.

In this connection, I beg to state that I have received a letter from Mr. Boneal wherein he states that he expects to leave Madrid for Peking in December. I promptly answered that Peking was inaccessible, by reason of the closing of the river, after the middle of

December

December, except by land, and the journey from Shanghai would have to be made in Chinese carts or litters after that time. I stated also that, if the public business required him to remain at Madrid until the spring, it would make no material difference to me.

It will, on every account, be more agreeable to him to wait until the mild weather sets in before coming to Peking. I suggest that he be notified to this effect by the Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

NOV 22

TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack, admitting to me.
Hixson's subsequent transfer
to Foo-chow. aab

DIPLOMATIC BUR

NOV 20 1893

NOV 20 1893

No 1740.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 4th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The commission of Mr. Hixson as Consul at Ningpo

Synopsis

Exequatur not asked for because of information that Mr. Fowler is reinstated.

No 1740.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The commission of J. Courtney Hixson, as Consul at Ningpo, was enclosed in your despatch No 822 of August 19th last. Since the receipt thereof, Mr. Fowler, the present Consul at Ningpo, has written to me that he has been "reinstated".

I have forborne to demand

an

an exequatur because, if Mr. Fowler is reinstated, confusion would be caused by the recognition of another person. I will hold the commission until I receive further directions from you.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Acknowledging receipt

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU

NOV 20 1893

No. 1741.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 4th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging receipt of

despatches.

No 1741.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows:

No 821 of August 18th last;
" 822 " " 19th "
" 823 " " 21st "
" 824 " " 21st "
" 825 " " 23rd "
" 826 " " 25th "

and of your circular of August

August 21st last, relating
to the robberies and
larcenies of Francis H. Weeks.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

No 1742.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 6th, 1893.

—Mr. Chester Bunby—
to the
—Secretary of State—

T. M.

—Subject—

Enclosing account for Cost
of Exchange for quarter ended
September 30th, 1893.

———— - - - ————

No 1742. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 6th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to

Enclose my Account for host

1742. by Exchange for Quarter Ended

September 30th 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure. Account as above.

No 1743 DIPLOMATIC BUREAU

NOV 20 1893

TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

Ack. Dep't also consults on the statement of facts herein.

NOV 20 1893

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE NOV 20 1893 RECEIVED

Peking, October 6th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Tonnage dues on steam launches

Synopsis

Mr. Denby reports the case of the "Foo An"

No 1743.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 6th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have had a discussion with the Inspector-General of Imperial Maritime Customs, over the liability of a certain steam launch, plying in the harbor of Foochow, to pay tonnage dues.

Under Art. XVI of the Treaty

of

of 1858, between the United States and China, tonnage dues are provided for, and regulations were framed by the Customs, in 1885, extending the liability to pay such dues to steam launches, under certain circumstances. These regulations require all Chinese-owned steam launches to register at the Customs and take out certificates. Such launches are to pay tonnage dues only when used for towing, when they are to be treated as tugs, otherwise they are to be exempt. Foreign-owned launches, not provided with foreign papers

and

and therefore not entitled
to fly a foreign flag, are
held subject to these
regulations.

In the case in question,
Mr. Churchill, an American
citizen, is the agent of a
company called the Foochow
Lighter and Cargo-boat
Company, the capital of which
belongs chiefly to foreigners.
This company is the proprietor
of a launch, the "Foo An",
which is the launch whose
liability to pay tonnage
dues is in dispute. Mr. Churchill
was formerly a member
of the firm of Hedge & Co.,
who were then the proprietors

of

of the "Foo An", at that time called the "Spray". The launch during that ownership was not used for towing and hence, under the regulations, paid no tonnage dues. In 1891, the "Spray" became the property of the Foochow Cargo-boat Company under the name of the "Foo An", and was used for towing for hire. Tonnage dues were paid on her by Messrs Jardine Matheson, the agents at that time. In 1893, the agency of the company passed to Mr. Churchill. The payment of tonnage dues was demanded by the Customs and refused by Mr. Churchill

on

on the ground that the launch, while owned by Hedge & Co., did not pay dues. Mr. Churchill appealed to the American Consul who sent the case to this Legation.

I presented the case to the Inspector-General, who came to the conclusion that, the present employment of the boat comprising the towing of cargo-boats etc., tonnage dues were leviable upon her. Her exemption while the property of Hedge & Co was due to her not having been used for such purposes.

While regretting not to have been of any assistance

to

to Mr. Churchill, I am
forced to concur in this
conclusion.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

No 1744.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 10th, 1893.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

T. M.

— Subject. —

Enclosing Contingent Expenses Account for Quarter Ending September 30th, 1893.

———— - - - ————

No 1744. One enclosure

Legation of the United States

Peking, October 10th 1893

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the account for Contingent Expenses of this Legation for the quarter ending the 30th September 1893.

1744.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure. Statement as above.

Separate.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 25 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 14th, 1893.

— Wm. F. D. Cheshire —
to the
— Secretary of State —

T. M.

— Subject —

Enclosing Account for Salary and Account for Loss by Exchange for Quarter Ending September 30th, 1893.

— — — —

Separate. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 14th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to Enclose my account for Salary and my account for Coals by Exchange for Quarter ending September 30th, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

F D Chester

Interpreter of Legation

Enclosures. Accounts as above.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 17th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 25 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

T. M.

Subject

Salary account.

Two enclosures.

Dep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to

1 of 2 enclose, herewith, my salary and exchange accounts for the quarter ending September 30th last.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Second Secretary

Enclosures:

Accounts as above.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack. This seems to be a rational and practical conclusion. aaa
NOV 25 1893

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
NOV 25 1893

No 1745.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 20th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 25 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The proposition to establish marine courts.

Synopsis

The foreign representatives decline to advocate their establishment.

No 1745.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 20th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the foreign representatives met at my office, the 16th instant, and, among other things, discussed the subject of endeavoring to procure the Chinese Government to establish marine courts, in which actions in admiralty brought against

Chinese

Chinese defendants might be heard and determined. This matter was refered to by me in my despatch No. 1686, of May 22nd last.

It was unanimously decided that it was not advisable to make such an effort at this time. The Consular Body at Shanghai has been informed of this conclusion.

My colleagues, generally, thought that the rare instances in which claims were presented against Chinese ships could be handled satisfactorily by the consular and diplomatic representatives. It was thought, also, that

there

there would be insuperable difficulties in organizing such courts, and in determining what law should govern their administration, until China had adopted a modern civil code.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

No 1746.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 20th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1893
RECEIVED

— Wm Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

T. M.

— Subject. —

Enclosing Duplicate Statement of Railway Account for quarter Ending September 30th, 1893.



No. 1746 One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 20th, 1893

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to

Enclose duplicate statement of

my account for salary for

the quarter Ending September

30th, 1893.

1746.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

No 1747.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 20th, 1893.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject. T. M.

Enclosing duplicate Statement of Rent Account for quarter Ending September 30th, 1893.

No 1747. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 20th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for the quarter ending September 30th, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure & Duplicate Statement as above.

File.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1893
RECEIVED

No 1748.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, October 20th, 1893.

— Hon. Wharton Barker —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of the return of seaports visited during the Quarter Ended 30th September 1893.

No 1748. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 20th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose
duplicate statement of the Names
of passports issued at this Legation
during the quarter ended September
30th, 1893.

1748.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1893
RECEIVED

APR 6 1894
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU

No 1749

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 23rd 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Received April 6/94.

Subject.

The right of foreigners to import machinery.

Synopsis

Encloses copy of communication to Yamên insisting on this right



One enclosure.

No 1749.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 23rd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham;

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to

1/1749 enclose a copy of a

communication sent by me

to the Tsung-li Yamên, the

21st instant, relating to

the right of foreigners to

import machinery into China.

It is a reply to the

communication of the Yamên

of which a copy was enclosed

in

in my despatch No 1734, of September 19th last.

The manufacture of cotton cloth has proved profitable at Shanghai. The factory there is owned by Chinese officials, at the head of whom is Li Hung-chang. The same parties are about to erect two other establishments to be used for the same purpose. There is also a factory at Wuchang, operated by the viceroy Chang Chih-tung.

The policy of China is thus plainly developed to encourage the manufacture of cotton goods, as long as it can be retained in official hands.

Unofficial

Unofficial Chinese and foreigner will not be allowed to engage in this business. This competition with foreign production would be dangerous if the business people were allowed to engage in it. It is thought that officialism will detract a great deal from the efficiency of any manufacturing venture, as it does from that of all other business.

It was the opinion of my colleagues who are named in the enclosure that we should still insist on the right of foreigners, under the treaty stipulations cited, to import

machinery

machinery into China, and that the discussion should be confined to that point, which was done.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Tsung-li Yamên, No. 17 October 21st 1893

Enclosure in No 1749.

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office.

No. October 21 1893.

Your Highness
and Your Excellencies:

On the 8th day of September last, I had the honor to receive from Your Highness and Your Excellencies a communication relating to the importation of machinery by foreigners into China.

I have the honor to state that I have been directed by the Ministers of France, Spain, Great Britain, Germany and the Netherlands and the Chargés d'Affaires of Belgium, Italy and Japan to address to Your Highness and Your Excellencies the following reply.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies recur again to the question of what you term the

"privilege"

"privilege" of manufacturing native products at the treaty ports. I beg to observe that the distinct question now under discussion is the right of foreigners, under existing treaty stipulations, to import machinery into China, and it is upon this point that, by the direction of my colleagues, I again have to address Your Exellencies. We plant ourselves on the tariff treaty signed by the representatives of Great Britain and five Chinese plenipotentiaries, at Shanghai, the 8th of November 1858.

By its terms, this treaty is equally binding with the Tientsin Treaty of June 26th 1858.

This treaty was drawn with great care, and was intended to cover and to control the commercial relations of China

with

with the foreign powers. It provides for every possible contingency that can arise in the mutual dealings of China and all other countries which have treaties with China. It is impossible to misconstrue or misunderstand its terms. It contains a long list of specific articles which may be imported and it fixes a rate of duty on each one of them. It sets forth certain special conditions attached to the importation or exportation of various designated articles: such as opium, cash, grain, pulse, sulphur, brimstone, rice and spelter. It specifies what goods shall be duty free. It absolutely prohibits import and export trade in the following articles; gunpowder, shot, cannon, fowling pieces, rifles, muskets, pistols, and all other munitions and implements

of

of war, and salt. It provides penalties for the violation of its provisions and has minute provisions touching all matters relating to import and export trade.

In case that any article of trade or commerce might have been overlooked, this treaty has general clauses to supply such deficiency. It provides that "articles not enumerated "in either list (import or "export), nor in the list of duty "free goods, will pay an "ad valorem duty of five per "cent calculated on their market "value"

The word "machinery" was not contained in the original treaty. It has since, by the action of Chinese officials, been inserted in the list of articles that may be imported, and has been regarded by the Customs

authorities

authorities as a legitimate and proper article of import.

The importation of machinery was not prohibited by the treaty. Machinery is one of the commonest articles of trade and commerce. It is not possible that the framers of the treaty intended to exclude it.

It seems, therefore, beyond dispute that the importation of machinery is in accordance with the stipulations and provisions of the treaty, and that there is an imperative obligation upon the contracting powers to abide by these provisions, and neither to encroach upon nor alter them, save and except with the consent of all the contracting parties. We should fail in our duty as the representatives of the treaty powers if we failed to impress this indisputable contention

upon

upon the notice of the Chinese Government.

The Minister of the United States avails himself of this occasion to renew to Your Highness and Your Excellencies the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.

Am 12 Dec

No 1750.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 24th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1893
RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
DEC 11 1893

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The law of manslaughter in consular courts in the East.

Synopsis

Attention called to the fact that in the law, as it stands, Eastern countries do not seem to be included.

over

F 3

I am strongly inclined to think upon that Sec 5343 RS was not completely repealed by the subsequent act to which you refer. That section is as follows

"Sec 5343. The punishment of manslaughter shall be imprisonment with or without hard labor, not more than three years and by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars except as otherwise specially provided by law"

The subsequent act provides.

"That whoever shall hereafter be convicted of the crime of manslaughter in any Court of the US in any State or Territory including the Dist of Columbia, shall be imprisoned not exceeding ten years, and fined not exceeding one thousand dollars" xxxx That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed xx."

But this act applies only to convictions of manslaughter in the U.S. Courts of any State or Territory, and does not hence anything in Sec 5343 is applicable

Sec 5343 so far as it was ever applicable to convictions of manslaughter in the consular courts abroad is not inconsistent with it and therefore is not repealed by it.

I am however further of opinion that the punishment of crimes tried in foreign countries by the American consular courts, is provided for not by sec 5343, but by secs 4101 to 4102 and the immediately following sections. These sections affix maximum fine or imprisonment or both in the discretion of the officer who decides the case, provide that all crimes coming under the jurisdiction of the consular courts, (which are not capital offenses) except insurrection and murder shall be punished by fine or imprisonment or both in the discretion of the officer who decides the case. Persons convicted of murder are declared to be punishable with death.

No 1750.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 25th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1601, of Nov. 3rd 1892, I had the honor to call the attention of the Department to what I regarded as a serious defect in the law affecting the crime of manslaughter, when committed in China and other Eastern countries.

It will appear from my

despatch

despatch that Sec. 5343 R.S. U.S., 2nd Ed. 1878, p. 1038, which fixes the penalty for manslaughter at imprisonment for not more than three years, was repealed by Chap. 138, p. 177 of the Supplement to the Revised Statutes of the U.S. Vol. 1 1874-1881, which fixed the penalty for manslaughter at not exceeding ten years' imprisonment. By the terms of this last act, jurisdiction over manslaughter does not seem to be continued in the consular courts in Eastern countries. The language used in the act is that the law shall operate in "any state or

"or territory including the
"District of Columbia".

I requested that the
latter act should be amended
by inserting the words
"any other place or district
"of country under the exclusive
"jurisdiction of the United
"States".

Perhaps the word <u>exclusive</u>
had better be omitted.

I renew the recommendation
contained in the despatch
cited.

I also requested that a
book entitled <u>Notes on
Revised Statutes U. S.</u>, by
Gould and Tucker, published
in 1889, should be sent to

this

this Legation. This request I also renew.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1751.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 24th, 1893

— Wm Charles Denby —

to the

— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate statement of account for loss by Exchange for quarter ended 30th September 1893.

T. M.

No 1751. one enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 24th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter a Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, DC.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of my account for loan by exchange for the quarter ended 30th September, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

No 1752.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1893
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 26th, 1893.

— Wm. Charles Denby —

to the

— Secretary of State —

T. M.

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of contingent Account for quarter Ending 30th September 1893.

— - - - —

No 1752. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 26th, 1893

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of my account for Contingent Expenses for the Quarter Ended 30th September 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate account as above.

Dip

Legation of the United States
Peking, October 28, 1893.

1 Confl
31 Mar

Index No. 8.

CABLE MESSAGE.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

All CABLE MESSAGES received for transmission must be written on the Message Blanks provided by this Company for that purpose, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, and on the back hereof, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

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6 H 6 a

NUMBER	SENT BY	REC'D BY	No. OF WORDS.	FROM
6.	My	9		Peking

RECEIVED at Washington, D. C. October 28 1893

Gresham
Washington

6.
For What Post Shall
denby qualify denby

Sep 1 Rec'd Dec 2 1893

Josiah B. Hair to Mr. Burke Dec 19 '93

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
DEC 19 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 29th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 19 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Encloses oath of office

One enclosure.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 29th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that, in obedience to your telegram of the 25th instant, directing me to qualify, I took, the 26th instant, before the United States Minister, the prescribed oath of allegiance and office as Secretary of this Legation. This oath I have the honor to enclose herewith. 1

1

In

In accepting this office, I beg leave to express to you and to the President my heartfelt thanks for and appreciation of the honor you have conferred upon me.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Secretary of Legation.

Enclosure:

Oath of office.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
DEC 5 1893

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1893
RECEIVED

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Note date of Mr. Denby's qualification, Oct 26. 1893.
Ack. by Number and File.
DEC 5 1893

No 1753.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, October 29th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State

Subject

The appointment of Mr. Charles Denby Jr. as First Secretary of this Legation.

Synopsis

Telegrams acknowledged and confirmed

No 1753.

Legation of the United States -

Peking, October 29th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I had the honor, the 25th instant, to receive your telegram of the 24th, of which the following is a copy:-

"Denby, Minister, Peking

"Confirmed and commission

"sent

"Gresham"

No name or office being designated in this message,

I directed the telegraph operator to have it repeated. Before this could be done, Mr. Charles Denby Jr. received, on the 26th instant, your telegram of the 25th, as follows:

"Denby, Secretary America Legation, Peking,

"Qualify,

"Gresham".

From these two telegrams I concluded that the Second Secretary had been promoted to the position of First Secretary, and he took the oath of office, the 26th instant, before me.

I was not, however, absolutely sure. The telegraph operator reported that he had traced

the

the first message to Shanghai and that it had reached Shanghai in the form above given. As it was possible that the appointment had been made to a consulate, I deemed it prudent to wire you. The 28th instant, I sent the following message:

"Gresham, Washington.

"For what port shall

"Denby qualify

"Denby."

Today, at 1.30 p.m., I received your telegram, bearing date 28th October 7.25 p.m., as follows:

"Denby, Peking

"Secretary Legation China

"Gresham."

I beg leave to say that this appointment meets with my complete approval, and that I return my profound thanks to the President and yourself for having made it. The recipient of the honor is thoroughly qualified to discharge the duties of First Secretary. He has, in fact, discharged them for a large portion of the last eight years.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No. 219

Despatch.

Legation of the United States
Peking, November 1st, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 19 1893
RECEIVED.

— Wm. F. D. Charlevoix —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of account for salary and house by Exchange for quarter ending September 30th, 1893.

Separate Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 1st, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of my account for salary and my account for Cash by Exchange for the quarter Ended 30th of September 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

F D Cheshire.

Interpreter of Legation

Enclosures 2. duplicate statements as above.

Van 20 Dec

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
DEC19 1893

No 1754.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 2nd, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 19 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Transit passes on the Yangtze

Synopsis
The case of Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Denby insists that transit passes are conclusive that the goods described are imported and not subject to likin

Four enclosures.

No. 1754.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 2nd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I received, in August last, a despatch from the Consul at Hankow, presenting the case of Mr. Jenkins, an American merchant.

Mr. Jenkins had taken out, at Hankow, transit passes covering certain goods, to wit: kerosene, seaweed, cassia twigs,

Cassia

cassia lignea, cardamoms and camphor—which he shipped into the interior. The kerosene constituted the bulk of the shipment.

At a place called Yoh Chow on the Yangtze, these goods were required to pay likin dues.

The 10th day of August last, I addressed to the Kungli Yamên a communication on this matter, of which a copy is enclosed. The Yamên replied, August 18th, that the matter would be investigated.

1/1754

The 24th ultimo, I again addressed a communication on the subject to the Yamên,

a

2/754 a copy whereof is enclosed.
The 29th ultimo, the Yamên
sent to me the communication
3/754 of which a copy is enclosed.
The first day of the present
month, I addressed to the
Yamên a communication of
4/754 which a copy is enclosed.
The Yamên admits that
the collection of likin on
kerosene was illegal and there
dues are ordered to be refunded.
They claim, however, that some
sort of discretion inheres in
the likin officials by which
they have the right to determine
whether goods covered by a
transit pass are in reality
imported goods or goods of
native

native production and
subject to pay likin dues.
From my reply to the Yamên
above mentioned it will be
seen that I insist that the
transit pass certificate issued
by the collector must be held
to be conclusive. As likin
stations are found along all
the channels of trade at close
intervals, trade and commerce
would be greatly impeded
if transit passes could be
disregarded by native officials.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Denby to the Tungli Yamen, No 12 Aug. 10th, 1893.

2. Mr. Denby to the Tungli Yamen No 18, Oct. 24th, 1893.

3. The Tungli Yamen to Mr. Denby No 17, Oct. 29th, 1893.

4. Mr. Denby to the Tungli Yamen No 19, Nov. 1st 1893.

Enclosure 1 in No 1754.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamen.

No 12. Aug. 10 - 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I have the
honor to bring to the notice
of Your Highness and Your
Excellencies a representation, made
to me by the United States
Consul at Hankow, in regard to
the exaction of likin on goods
of Mr. M. A. Jenkins, covered by transit
passes, at Yoh Chow, in Hunan.
I enclose copies of the correspondence
between the U. S. Consul and
the Taotai - three in all - also
a list of the goods covered by
the transit passes. I have in
my possession thirty three transit
passes which can be shown
to Your Highness and Your
Excellencies if desired.

The transaction is a simple

one

one. The likin authorities compelled Mr. Jenkins to pay likin amounting to 101.096 cash on goods covered by transit passes. The goods were foreign goods and were inspected by the Customs at Hankow when the passes were issued.

It was not competent for the likin authorities to disregard the transit passes and to collect likin. I have, therefore, to request that Your Highness and Your Excellencies will order that there be refunded to Mr. Jenkins the money thus extorted from him, and that you will also order the likin authorities to cease collecting likin on goods covered by transit passes.

I have etc.,

(Sgd) Charles Denby.

Enclosure 2 in No 1754.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamen.

No 18. Oct. 24. 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

Upon the 10th of August last, I had the honor to address Your Highness and Your Excellencies in the matter of the exaction of likin by the likin authorities at Yoh Chow, in Hunan, on goods of Mr. M. A. Jenkins, an American merchant, which were duly covered by transit passes in accordance with the stipulations of treaty.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies replied on the 18th idem, stating that you had addressed the Governor of Hunan, setting forth the representations made in my communication, and on receiving an answer

Yours

Your Highness and Your Excellencies would address me informing me of same.

More than two months have elapsed without hearing from Your Highness and Your Excellencies on the subject and, as the case is one which, under treaty, involves the right of foreigners to send goods into the interior under transit passes, without being subject to the levy of likin, I shall feel obliged by Your Highness and Your Excellencies informing me what action has been taken in the premises.

The fact of the goods having been duly covered by transit passes is evidence sufficient to prove that the exaction made by the Yoh Chow officials was illegal and a violation of treaty stipulations.

I have etc.,
(Sgd) Charles Denby.

Copy of translation. Enclosure 3 in № 1754.

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Denby.

№ 17 Oct. 29th 1893.

In the matter of the levy of likin by the likin authorities of Yoh Chow, in Hunan, on goods of Mr. M. A. Jenkins, in August last, the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States in regard thereto, wherein he transmitted copies of the correspondence between the United States consul at Hankow and the Taotai, also a list of the goods covered by the transit passes, and requested that an order be issued to have refunded to Mr. Jenkins the money thus extorted from him, and that the likin authorities be ordered to cease collecting likin on goods covered by transit passes.

At

- At the time the Yamên addressed the Governor of Hunan on the subject and also acknowledged the communication of the Minister of the United States, which is a matter of record.

The Yamên has now received a reply from the Governor of Hunan as follows:

"In regard to the kerosene
"which was covered by
"transit passes, it may be
"observed that of recent years
"there has been a good deal
"of native oil manufactured
"which resembles in appearance
"the foreign article, and
"when it was first manufactured
"orders were issued that it
"should pay likin and thus
"guard against malpractices.
"Foreign oil is an article
"specified in the tariff, but
"it is difficult to distinguish

between

"between it and the native
"oil. Instructions were
"issued, however, that on
"the foreign article no likin
"should be levied, and the
"practice has ceased for
"several months.

"But, as to seaweed, it
"is a native product
"gathered at island places
"along the coast and
"ranks among the principal
"articles of commerce that
"are conveyed into Hunan,
"and, as there have been
"a good deal of smuggling
"and malpractice committed,
"it was proper that it
"should be regarded as a
"native product and pay
"likin in accordance with
"established regulations.

"In cases, however, where,
"on investigation, it is
"found that there is proof

positive

"positive of the goods having
"been shipped from Hongkong,
"then action will be taken
"differently.

"Instructions have been
"issued to the Likin authorities
"to address the Hankow
"Taotai to make this known
"to the mercantile classes,
"and to request them to act
"in due observance of the rules
"laid down.

"Further, instructions
"have been issued for the
"merchant (Mr. Jenkins) who
"conveyed the oil to go to
"the Likin authorities at
"Yoh Chow, who have been
"ordered to refund the
"amount of the Likin levied
"on the oil.

"The Governor requests
"that the Yamên will
"communicate the above for
"the information of the Minister

of

"of the United States".

The Yamên would observe that the likin levied on the goods by the Yoh Chow officials was almost entirely on kerosene. The likin authorities have already been instructed to refund the amount thus levied. But, as to the seaweed and other miscellaneous articles, likin has been levied on them by the said office according to the rules laid down for native goods sent into the interior and, as the amount levied is very small, there would seem this time no need to consider or take any notice of it.

The Yamên has already addressed the officials of said province that, in future, when goods are shipped from Hongkong and covered by transit passes, which are bona fide foreign goods, they must be allowed to pass freely

and

and illegal exactions of likin must not be levied.

The Prince and Ministers were about addressing the Minister of the United States when they received his communication enquiring what action the Yamên proposed to take in the matter.

A necessary communication addressed to

H.E. Charles Denby,
etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure 4 in No 1754.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên.

No 19. November 1st 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I have the
honor to acknowledge the
receipt of the communication of
Your Highness and Your
Excellencies, of the 29th instant, (ultimo)
touching the exaction of likin
dues at Yoh Chow on goods
covered by transit passes.

The conclusion arrived at,
that likin dues collected from
the American merchant on
kerosene oil were illegally
collected and will be refunded,
is entirely satisfactory.

Your Highness and Your
Excellencies further say: "But,
"as to the seaweed and other
"miscellaneous articles, likin
"has been levied on them

by

"by the said office according
"to the rules laid down
"for native goods sent into
"the interior."

This statement, so far as it applies to goods covered by a transit pass, is by no means in accordance with the tariff treaty which was signed at Shanghai 8th November, 1858.

Rule VII of that treaty reads as follows:

"In the case of imports;
"Notice being given at the
"port of entry from which
"the imports are to be
"forwarded inland of the
"nature and quantity of
"the goods, the ship from
"which they have been
"landed and the place
"inland to which they are
"bound, with all other
"necessary particulars, the
"Collector of Customs will,

On

"on due inspection made,
"and on receipt of the
"transit-duty due, issue
"a transit-duty certificate.
"This must be produced at
"every barrier station and
"visé. No further duty
"will be leviable upon
"imports so certificated,
"no matter how distant the
"place of their destination".

The duty of determining whether goods are native or imported is, by this article, entrusted to the Collector of Customs.

Is it possible that Your Highness and Your Excellencies are going to hold that, because similar goods to those described in the transit passes are produced in China, they will not be protected against likin by a transit pass? Such a construction would cover wheat,

corn

corn cotton and almost every article that is grown anywhere under the sun.

The Collector of Customs, who is presumed to do his duty, decided, on proof made, that the collection of likin dues on the goods described was illegal. The amount may be small but the principle is important.

I have, therefore, the honor to request that Your Highness and Your Excellencies will direct that all the likin dues paid by Mr. Jenkins on goods covered by transit passes be refunded to him.

I have etc.,

(Sig'd) Charles Denby.

Dip

2nd ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack with gratification
aad
DEC 19 1893

to see
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
DEC 19 1893

No 1755.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 3rd, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 19 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Copy to Committees on Foreign Relations and Appropriations House and Senate Jany 9.94 with letter (L)

Subject

Occupation of the new Legation offices

Synopsis

The minister and staff have moved in. The excellence thereof commented on.

No 1755.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 3d, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I moved into the new office building, the 15th ultimo.

Plans of this building will be found in my despatch No 1503, of the 30th March 1892. They have been faithfully executed.

On the first floor there are four rooms; one for the minister, one for the first secretary, one for

the

the library and a strong room. These rooms are all large and well lighted.

On the second floor there are four large rooms and one small one, over the hall. The large rooms are for the Chinese secretary, the second secretary, the Chinese writer, for books which are not required for ordinary use, and the small one for stationery.

There are two wide halls on each floor.

The work was done under the superintendence of Mr. F. D. Yamewell, who devoted a great deal of time to it.

The ironware was all imported from the United States.

The

The building is of the best quality of brick. The roof is of galvanized, corrugated iron.

The vault for the archives occupies the southeast corner of the lower floor and is eighteen feet square. The walls of this strong-room, or vault, are two feet thick, lined with fire-brick cutting, laid down at Peking, gold $27.00 per thousand. The ceiling is vaulted with arch of fire-bricks of three layers, affording ample protection in case of fire falling on the roof. The floor is filled with concrete and covered with Portland cement. The door is a wrought iron vault door,

with

with a vestibule twenty inches deep and an inner door, also of wrought iron. These doors were manufactured by the Victor Safe and Lock Company, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The cost of the entire building was five thousand one hundred taels.

The archives have not been put in the vault yet because it is still damp. It will, I think, take some months to dry completely.

The building is an ornament to the compound. It is, without doubt, the finest specimen of architecture in Peking, except, perhaps, two Catholic churches.

I beg leave to thank the Department and the owners of the premises for the construction of this admirable building.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DIPLOMATIC
DEC 20 1893

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack. by Number and File
DEC 19 1893

No 1756.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 6th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 19 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Noted in Solicitor's Office
Dec. 20. 1893.

Subject

Admiralty jurisdiction over the Inland Sea.

Synopsis

Supreme Court China and Japan sustains British admiralty jurisdiction and allows counter-claim against Emperor of Japan.

One enclosure.

No 1756.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 6th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I enclose a clipping from the North China News of the 27th ultimo, noticing a recent decision made by Her British Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Japan.

This decision, unless reversed on appeal by the Privy Council at London, settles two important propositions.

One

One is that the Inland Sea, though in places the channel is only two miles wide, is the highway of nations and is not under the sole admiralty jurisdiction of Japan.

Another is that a counter-claim may be filed in admiralty cases where an action is brought in British courts by a foreign sovereign.

In my opinion, this decision is, on both grounds, to be highly commended.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Leading article from the North China Daily News Oct. 27. 1893.

Sole enclosure in No 1756.

The
North-China Daily News.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, 27TH OCTOBER, 1893.

THE judgments given on Wednesday in the Supreme Court here by the Chief Justice Mr. Hannen and the Assistant Judge Mr. Jamieson, in the appeal from Japan in the *Chishima-Ravenna* case, will surely commend themselves to all who take a common-sense view of the question at issue, and "Law," it has been said, "is the perfection of common-sense." The P. & O. steamer *Ravenna* having in November last run down and sunk the Japanese man-of-war *Chishima Kan* in the Inland Sea of Japan, the Imperial Japanese Government brought an action in the British Court for Japan, asking that the P. & O. Company might be made to pay for the loss. The P. & O. Company replied that the catastrophe was entirely due to the fault of those on board the *Chishima*, and they asked to be allowed, as the *Ravenna* had been seriously damaged by the collision, to file a counterclaim which should be heard with the suit, and that the Japanese Government should be ordered to give security to abide by the decision of the Court on the counterclaim. Mr. Mowat, the Judge of the Japan Court, decided that the P. and O. Company could not be allowed to file a counterclaim, and against this decision the P. and O. Company have successfully appealed.

The ground on which Mr. Mowat refused the counterclaim he stated himself shortly in the following words which concluded his judgment given at Yokohama on the 30th of June last :—

"The Plaintiff being, by the law of the country where the collision occurred, not answerable for the negligent act of his servants, he cannot be sued in an English Court for the damage resulting from such act; and being, *for that reason*, not answerable in an action, he cannot be held liable to a counterclaim."

This followed from Mr. Mowat's finding that the collision occurred in the territorial waters of Japan, in a channel only two miles wide, with Japanese territory on both sides of it, and at a spot less than three miles from the nearest part of one of the four large islands of Japan, Shikoku. The average person would at first sight be at one with Mr. Mowat in entertaining no doubt whatever that a channel only two miles wide between two Japanese islands is part of the territorial waters of Japan : but he will come to the opposite conclusion after reading Mr. Hannen's judgment. Mr. Hannen shows that the Inland Sea, in which the collision took place, is the highway of nations ; that some years ago, "when the entrance to the Inland Sea was stopped, the right to enter and pass through it was asserted by force of arms by England, France, Holland, and America, and such right admitted by the Government of Japan." Mr. Hannen relies also on the case of the *Saxonia*, which is exactly in point. This is the case of a collision between a steamer belonging to Hamburg, the *Saxonia*, and a British sailing vessel, the *Eclipse*, in the Solent, on the night of the 29th of December, 1860. The Solent divides the Isle of Wight from the island of Great Britain, but the Isle of Wight is so close to Great Britain that it "is by local and territorial designation to be deemed a portion of the county of Southampton." The question was mooted whether the Solent was a territorial water in which the British Shipping Act applied to the foreign ships there navigating, or whether it was a portion of the high seas, in which the ordinary Law Maritime would apply, and the Master of the Rolls expressed the judgment of the Privy Council in the following terms :—

"We are of opinion that this collision must be considered to have taken place on the high seas, in a place where a foreign vessel has a right of sailing without being bound by any of the provisions of the statutes enacted to govern British ships. This being so, it follows that the Merchant Shipping Act has no application to this case, as it has been fully determined that where a British and a foreign ship meet on the high seas, the statute is not binding on either" (because it would not be fair to put the British on a different footing in the Court from the foreign vessel). "The principle, therefore, by which this case must be decided must be found in the ordinary rules of the sea."

The ordinary common-sense view of the question of allowing a counterclaim would be indicated in the maxim that what's fair for one is fair for the other, the legal form of which is that he who seeks equity must do equity. The Assistant Judge put this point very clearly. The Emperor of Japan, he said, "voluntarily comes into this Court and asks the aid of the Court to recover damages against a British steamer which he alleges has sunk one of his war vessels. . . The question is, has the Emperor of Japan any right as he contends, to ask that his claim be determined wholly without reference to the damages sustained by defendants, and that he be at liberty to recover his damages even in the event of both vessels being found to blame, leaving the defendants to the chances of an action in the Japanese Courts against the wrong-doer? Stated thus plainly it seems to me to be a proposition very difficult to support on any principle of justice or equity. If this Court has jurisdiction in the suit at all, must it not be taken that the plaintiff comes in on the same terms as he would come in to any Court in Her Majesty's dominions, that is, as submitting to the jurisdiction of the Court so that all proper orders may be made against him, and thus enable the Court to do complete justice between the parties? Must he not when seeking justice be held as offering to do justice?"

Against the argument that because the Emperor of Japan could not have an original suit brought against him, he therefore could not be subject to a counterclaim, the case of the *Newbattle* is relied on. This was a case in which the owners of the *Louise Marie*, a Belgian mail steamer, the property of the King of the Belgians, brought an action against the *Newbattle*, there having been a collision between the two vessels. The owners of the *Newbattle* counterclaimed, and the Registrar in the English Court ordered all proceedings in the action to be stayed until the *Louise Marie* gave security to answer the counterclaim. The *Louise Marie* moved in the Court of Appeal to rescind the order of the Registrar, but the Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Cotton and Lord Justice Lindley assenting, disallowed the appeal. The Master of the Rolls said: "It has always been held that if a Sovereign Prince invokes the jurisdiction of the Court as a plaintiff, the Court can make all proper orders against him. The Court has never hesitated to exercise its powers against a foreign Government to this extent;" and Lord Justice Cotton said: "When a Government comes in as a suitor, it submits to the jurisdiction of the Court and to all orders which may properly be made. Regard must of course be had to the fact that in this case the King of the Belgians is a Sovereign Prince, but the order is nevertheless a proper one." Considering these precedents, and the others of almost equal importance quoted by Mr. Hannen and Mr. Jamieson, we cannot doubt that they were right in reversing Mr. Mowat's decision. This is certainly the view of the average layman, and will, we believe, be the view taken by the Privy Council, if the Japanese Government should decide to carry the question to that last tribunal.

Dip

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack. by Number and File.
DEC 19 1893
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
DEC 19 1893

No 1757.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 8th 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 19 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the birthday of the Empress Dowager

Synopsis

Projected ceremonies described Question presented whether the United States will give a present.

№ 1757.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 8th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The Dowager Empress Yu Hsi will attain the age of sixty years, the 27th day of November 1894.

In my despatches № 790, of Jan. 11th 1889, and № 831, of Feb. 28th 1889 (See Foreign Relations 1889, p.p. 93-99.) I gave some account of the life of this distinguished lady. She ruled

China

China well and wisely from the death of the Emperor Hsien Feng, Aug. 22nd 1861, until the 4th day of March 1889, when the young Emperor Kuang Hsü assumed the reins of government.

The anniversary of her birth will be celebrated in a most gorgeous and expensive manner. Commissioners to regulate the exercises for the occasion were selected last year and were ordered to make all preparations on the grandest scale. The celebrations of the seventieth and eightieth anniversaries of the birth of the dowager mother of the Emperor Kien Lung have been

taken

taken as models. There will be a triumphal progress from the Cho Park to the Forbidden City, about ten miles. Along this route there will be seven dragon sheds, nineteen ornamental sheds, twenty-six decorated platforms for the performance of the Buddhistic worship of longevity, fourteen theatrical stages, eighty-four triumphal arches six elaborately decorated kiosks and nine spots where it is intended to display certain ancient curiosities handed down by preceding dynasties. More than a million pieces of ancient silk are

to

to be used in decoration.

In the imperial precincts many pavillions made of satin will be erected. The gates of the city and the pailous will be festooned with colored satin. The shops and houses along the route will be repaired and decorated. Appropriate mottoes will line the route. Free theatrical performances will take place from the first of the ninth month to the twentieth of the tenth month.

The emperor will confer on the empress dowager, as an additional honorific title, the characters Chung Hsi - Eminent and Splendid. On her birthday,

the

the whole court will wait on Ler. Punishments will be remitted and degraded officials will be restored to rank. There will be a grand procession, with numerous sedan chairs and chariots, umbrellas, incense burners, banners and many other things. All the princes, dukes, govenor-general, govenors and generals will present memorials. Princes, dukes, etc., down to civil officers of the fourth rank and military officers of the third rank, will each present a ju-i made of jade. Other presents will be made by the high officials and their ladies.

It is said that the emperor stated that the cost of this celebration ought to be ten million taels, but it is supposed that it will cost thirty millions.

It is my impression that the imperial government expects that the foreign powers will send presents commensurate with the grandeur of this occasion. I have reason to believe that some of my colleagues will advise their governments to send presents.

If the question now were whether the United States Government, or I individually, should accept presents from

China

China, I should not hesitate to repeat the opinion that I gave in 1889. At that time, I refused to accept certain presents, and I was directed to forward them to the Department, which was done. My action was controlled by the statute (Sec 1751 R.S. 1878, 2nd Ed.) and by the VII article of the treaty of 1858, which contains this clause:

"And it is agreed that no "present, under any pretext "or form whatever, shall ever "be demanded of the United "States by China, or of China "by the United States".

It cannot, however, strictly

be

be said that the occasion herein commented on comes within the purview of the law or the treaty. The Empress Dowager is a person illustrious on account of her former position, but she is not now officially connected with the Government of China.

There is danger, of course, that a present, even to her, may be considered as tribute. Presents are usually so construed by the Chinese.

The question whether our government should give a present or not is to be determined by the practice and traditions of the Department.

I have taken some pains to properly describe the projected ceremonies in order that the subject might be fully presented to you.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Dip

No 1758.

DEC 26 1893

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 15th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 28 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

answ'd Dec. 27/93 P.

Subject

Proposed regulations for bearers of passports

Synopsis

The Yamên requests the foreign representatives to devise a plan by which travellers shall be required to report their movements to local officials en route.

D ASSISTANT SECRETARY

DEC 23 1893

Mr Rockhill:

Mr. Denby's views appear to be judicious. Travelers under a travel-passport may not unreasonably be expected to keep the local officials advised of their movements, not by way of submitting to surveillance, but to facilitate their protection in case of need. But he is not expected to assent to any restrictions upon American travel not applying to all foreign travel.

aab

One enclosure.

No 1758.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 15th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a translation of a communication from the Tungli Yamên, on the subject of requiring travellers in China to report their movements to the local authorities found en route.

1/1758

This paper sets forth a communication from the taotai of Ching Chou, Hsiang and Shihnan

Mr. Adee.

I have only to suggest that while the regulations the Tsung li Yamen appear reasonable, in complying with it it should be perfectly understood that it is not to restrict travellers to certain routes that their right to take such roads as best suit them is not invalidated thereby. This is I think very important, as the Chinese are adverse to foreigners following byroads or taking any other than the principal highways of travel

WR

One enclosure.

No 1758.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 15th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

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1/1758

This paper sets forth a communication from the taotai of Ching Chou, Hsiang and

Shihnan

Shihnan, localities in the province of Hupeh, to the effect that travellers have failed to report to the subprefect their arrival and their intended movements, and that, in such cases, he should not be called upon to report them. He further states that "should trouble arise to "those who have not reported "their arrival, the responsibility "of giving protection should not "rest on the shoulders of officials "of the departments or districts."

The governor general, in turn, observes that the "taotai "is actuated by a desire of "giving due attention to the "protection of foreigners travelling with

"with passports and thereby
"averting any trouble or
"calamity." He states that "the
"departments and districts
"under his jurisdiction cover
"a vast area and the population
"is composed of both good and
"bad. If foreigners do not
"report to the local authorities,
"there will be no way of giving
"them ample protection". He
requests the Hungli Yamên
to arrange some plan of action
with the foreign representatives.

The Hungli Yamên observes
that foreigners "should report
"to the local authorities of
"the place on their arrival, to
"the end that due protection

may

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"bad. If foreigners do not
"report to the local authorities,
"there will be no way of giving
"them ample protection". He
requests the Hunglì Yamên
to arrange some plan of action
with the foreign representatives.

The Hunglì Yamên observes
that foreigners "should report
"to the local authorities of
"the place on their arrival, to
"the end that due protection

may

may be accorded them. The Yamên, therefore, requests me to communicate with my colleagues and have them consider the question presented and devise some feasible plan of action.

I have circulated a copy of the Chinese text, and an English translation thereof, among my colleagues for their consideration. Some time, however, will elapse before a conclusion is arrived at.

On the face of it, the requirement of reports from travellers arriving in any jurisdiction seems reasonable. Nevertheless, it is by no means sure that my colleagues will

consent

consent to any new regulation in anywise burdening travellers. There are always parties of Russians, and sometimes of Englishmen, travelling over China, ostensibly engaged in scientific occupations. Although these parties are treated with courtesy by the Chinese officials, still they are viewed with some jealousy.

I will report the final action of the foreign representatives.

You are aware that American missionaries travel a great deal, either for pleasure or in search of new localities for permanent location. The passports issued to such persons by this

legation

legation usually specify that the intended travel will extend to three provinces. While I would not approve of a requirement that a route should be designated at the time of applying for a passport, because many circumstances might occur to render a change of route desirable, still there would seem to be no hardship in indicating to the authorities of the jurisdiction in which the travel begins the route proposed to be followed. On the traveller's arrival at any departmental (chou) or district (hsien) city, he might be required to report his arrival to the local magistrate as

As well as the route which he proposes to follow on his departure therefrom.

The traveller having given notice of his movements to the chief magistrates in the important cities, it would be their duty to notify all the subordinate officials, in the places through which the traveller would pass, of the fact that he was en route and there would be no excuse for a failure to afford protection.

As, owing to the near approach of the closing of navigation, communication by post will be very slow, I beg to request that, if my views

are

are disapproved, I be notified by wire.

It is proper to state that, unless the proposed scheme is endorsed by the great powers, I will hesitate to consent to it as affecting Americans alone.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby, No. 18, Nov. 10th 1893.

Copy of translation. Enclosure in No 1758.

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby.

No 18. November 10. 1893.

Upon the 5th of October, the Yamên received a communication from the governor general of Hu-kuang as follows:

The taotai of Ching Chou, Hsiang and Shihnan, reports that he has received the governor generals instructions to effect that the Tsungli Yamên addressed him stating that, on the 17th of June last, the minister of the United States, &c. &c. Mr. Denby, sent a note setting forth that, in May last, a passport was issued to Mr. J. S. Beals. That gentleman now desired to have his passport altered, inserting in it the provinces Hupeh and Shensi, and

the

the minister of the United States requested that this alteration be made and that the Yamên address the authorities of those provinces to give Mr. Beals, in case of need, all necessary protection.

The Yamên duly made the alteration desired, viséd the passport, sent a note in reply to the minister of the United States and requested the governor general to instruct the local authorities (of Hupeh) to render Mr. Beals the necessary aid and protection in his journey through their jurisdiction, as provided by treaty stipulations. The Yamên further requested to have communicated to it the

date

date of Mr. Beals' arrival and departure from any district (within the taotai's jurisdiction), so that a record of the same could be kept for reference. The governor general commanded the taotai to instruct the officials under his jurisdiction, in like manner, to observe his injunctions and to afford Mr. Beals all necessary aid and protection, and that a record be kept of his arrival at and departure from places within his circuit to be sent to the governor general for transmission to Peking.

The taotai, in obedience to the instructions received, communicated with the officials under his jurisdiction that, in the event of the American Beals visiting the

the prefectures of Ching Chow, Yehang or Shihnan, to give him all necessary aid and protection.

He taotai would observe, however, that from the date of his assumption of the duties of his office - the 1st of Dec. 1892, to July 12th 1893 - he had received 60 communications informing him of foreigners who were travelling under passports embracing 199 persons, male and female. Of this number there were 38 merchants, the rest being men and women engaged in missionary work. During this time, about eight months, there were no cases reported to the authorities of the arrival of foreigners within the prefectures of Ching Chow, Yehang or Shihnan.

He

The taotai begs that the governor general will communicate with the Tsungli Yamên and explain that when foreigners apply for passports, either in Peking or in the provinces, and, when travelling in Hupeh, they fail to report their arrival to the sub-prefect or magistrate as well as their intended movements, he should not, in such cases, be called upon to report upon them. Should trouble arise to those who have not reported their arrival, the responsibility of giving protection to them should not rest on the shoulders of officials of the departments or districts.

The taotai presents the above for the perusal of the governor general.

The

The governor general would observe that the said taotai is actuated by a desire of giving due attention to the protection of foreigners travelling with passports, and thereby averting any trouble or calamity. The departments and districts under his jurisdiction cover a vast area of territory and the population is composed of both good and bad. If foreigners do not report to the local authorities, there will be no way of giving them ample protection. The governor general, therefore, requests that the Yamên will consider this question with the foreign representatives, with the view of adopting some feasible plan of action to the end that benefit

may

may accrue to both foreigners and Chinese alike.

The governor general transmits the foregoing observations for the information and consideration of the Yamên.

The Yamên would remark that the representations made by the governor general of Hu-kuang are naturally true. Foreigners travelling with passports should report to the local authorities of the place on their arrival, to the end that due protection may be accorded them from time to time. But, from the representations made by the taotai of Ching Chow, Ichang and Shihsan, no reports have been made by foreigners travelling with passports of their arrival at the above places. If such be the case at one place

it

it will be similar at other places, and, in the event of unexpected trouble arising, how will it be possible to render timely and adequate protection.

The Yamên would, therefore, request the minister of the United States to communicate with his colleagues, consider the question presented and try to adopt, as quickly as practicable, a feasible plan of action and inform the prince and ministers thereof so that they may communicate with the high authorities of the provinces to act accordingly.

The Yamên is in this matter actuated by a sincere desire to give protection to foreigners travelling under passports.

As in duty bound, the prince and ministers send this communication to the minister of the United States for his information and for such action as may be taken in the

premises.

premises.

A necessary communication addressed to

F. C. Charles Denby.

etc. etc. etc.

Dip

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
DEC 26 1893

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Copy to Mr. Crisp, referring to previous correspondence = 26th Dec. 93. m
Ack & file - 26th Dec. 93. m
DEC 23 1893

No 1759.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 17th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 23 1893
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The Sungpu murders.

Synopsis

The Yamên promises to direct the Viceroy to arrange all questions with Mr. Bock.

Two enclosures.

No 1759.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, at the request of Mr. Carl Bock, Consul General of Sweden and Norway, and by the consent and direction of my colleagues, I, as Dean, transmitted to the Tsungli Yamên a communication relating to the approaching visit of

Mr.

Mr. Bock to Hankow.

The Yamên was requested to wire the Viceroy instructions to arrange with Mr. Bock all the matters growing out of the recent murder of the two Swedes.

1/1759 I enclose a copy of this communication, herewith, and a translation of

2/1759 the Yamên's reply thereto, wherein it promises compliance with my request.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Denby to the Yamên Nov. 10. 1893.
2. The Yamên to Mr. Denby Nov 15. 1893.

Enclosure 1 in No 1759.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên.

No 21. November 10 - 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

The Minister of the United States has the honor to state that he has been directed by his honorable colleagues to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies that Mr. Carl Bock intends to proceed to Hankow, the 20th instant, for the purpose of arranging, with His Excellency the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, all the questions growing out of the recent murder at Sungpan of the two Swedes Ulvholm and Johanson.

The foreign representatives request Your Highness and Your Excellencies to send instructions by telegraph to His Excellency the Viceroy directing him to

arrange

arrange and settle all the matters involved during the stay of Mr. Carl Bock at Hankow.

The Minister of the United States avails himself of this occasion to renew to Your Highness and Your Excellencies the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.

Translated by
Ch. Denby Jr. Secty.

Enclosure 2 in No 1759.

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby.

No 19. November 15th 1893.

On the 10th instant, we received Your Excellency's despatch, with reference to the Sungpu case, stating that the foreign representatives had asked you to inform this Yamên that they had learned that Mr. Bock, Consul General of Sweden and Norway, was about to go to Hankow to settle all the questions growing out of that affair, and to request us to telegraph to the Governor General of Hukuang that he must bring to a conclusion all the matters connected with this case, during the stay of Consul General Bock at Hankow.

This Yamên has now telegraphed the Governor General to amicably discuss there questions with

Consul

Consul General Bock, upon his arrival, and to bring them to a satisfactory conclusion.

In forwarding this reply to Your Excellency, we express the hope that it will be communicated to Their Excellencies the foreign representatives for their information.

To H. E. Charles Denby
United States Minister
etc. etc. etc.

Acknowledged - 26 Dec

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
DEC 28 1893

No 1760.

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 23 1893
RECEIVED.

Peking, November 17th 1893.

Commission rec'd & filed Consular Bur.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The Foochow Consulate

Synopsis

Mr. Hixon's recognition requested and his previous commission as Consul at Ningpo returned.

№ 1760.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 17th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch № 832, of the 12th ultimo, enclosing Mr. J. Courtney Hixon's commission as Consul of the United States at Foochow.

The recognition of Mr. Hixon by exequatur has been asked of the Chinese Government

and

and, on the granting thereof, his commission will be forwarded to him.

Refering to my despatch No 1740, of the 4th October last, I enclose, herewith, his previous commission whereby he was appointed Consul at Ningpo.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 6 1894

No. 1761.

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 6 1894
RECEIVED

Peking, November 20th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Rec'd April 6/94.

Subject

The right to import machinery into China.

Synopsis

The Yamên still denies this right

One enclosure.

No 1761.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 20th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1749, of the 23rd ultimo, I had the honor to enclose a copy of a communication to the Tsungli Yamên, relating to the right to import machinery into China. I now enclose a translation of the Yamen's reply thereto.

It will be seen that the

Yamên

Yamên states that machinery was not originally mentioned in the treaties, that its importation works harm to the people, and that it properly rests with the Chinese Government to decide whether or not it may be imported.

This paper has not yet been considered by my colleagues.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby

No. 22, November 18th 1893.

Translated by
Ch. Denby Jr. Secty

Enclosure in No 1761.

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby.

No 22. November 18th, 1893.

Your Excellency:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, of the 21st ultimo, stating that you had been directed by the Ministers of France, Spain, Great Britain, Germany and the Netherlands, and the Chargés d'Affaires of Belgium, Italy and Japan, to again address us on the subject of the importation of machinery.

In this despatch you say:
"The word machinery was not
"contained in the original treaty.
"It has since, by the action of
"Chinese officials, been inserted in
"the list of articles that may be
"imported, and has been
"regarded by the Customs authorities

as

"as a legitimate and proper
"article of import".

We have to state that machinery was not originally mentioned in the treaties, but, as it was subsequently brought to the ports of China and as its use seemed advantageous to the people, the low duty of five per cent. ad valorem was levied upon it. If this machinery, however, interferes with the people's means of gaining their livelihood, and if it works harm to the localities where introduced, it does not come within this regulation, but it properly rests with the Chinese Government itself to decide, after due consideration, whether or not its importation shall be permitted. It cannot be regarded as on the same basis as the ordinary articles of merchandise cited

in

in the tariff schedule.

We hope that Your Excellency and the other Foreign Representatives will consider this question in a spirit of equity.

To His Excellency
Charles Denby,
United States Minister

Dip

Dep Bureau Jan 6 9 cl

DEPARTMENT OF STATE. JAN 6 1894 RECEIVED.

TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY
To Secy of Agriculture
So ack.
JAN 6 1894

V 9 Jan "

No 1762.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 27th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Agriculture in China

Synopsis

Paper thereon enclosed. Suggestion made that a box of seed from the Department of Agriculture would be acceptable.

One enclosure.

No 1762.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, November 27th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a paper on agriculture in China, which was prepared by the first secretary of this legation, Mr. Charles Denby Jr. A copy thereof was sent to the Agricultural Congress at Chicago, but I think a wider circulation is not undesirable.

I

In this connection, I beg to state that, some years ago, the Department of Agriculture had the kindness to send to this legation a box of seeds, which I distributed among the country people around Peking, with the injunction that some of the vegetables raised therefrom should be sold to the members of this legation. We derived considerable benefit from this transaction. It would be very agreeable if another box, containing among other things some good watermelon seed, were sent to me.

The enclosed article is not susceptible of satisfactory abbreviation

abbreviation, but I call attention to the fact that, among other schemes tried in China, the effort to benefit famers, by loaning them the government money at 2%, was made in the eleventh century and failed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

" Paper on agriculture as above.

Enclosure in No. 1762

Agriculture in China

In a country like China, from whose broad fields four hundred and fifty millions of our fellow-men obtain their sustenance, no subject is of such importance as agriculture. The vast antiquity of this country too, and the unbroken continuity of its history, lend an interest to the consideration of an art which has been handed down as it exists today from the earliest dawn of history. Changes there have been, of course; new grains and new vegetables have been added to the scanty list of old, but methods have remained the same and the soil is cultivated today as in the days which antedate Confucius.

Agriculture, according to the Chinese accounts, was not

gradually

gradually developed from rude beginnings, but has a certain definiteness of origin which it lacks in Western history. It was the invention of the Emperor Shen Neng, who ascended the throne 2737 years B.C., in succession to Fuh-hi, the first emperor of China. Whatever vein of truth this tradition may lack, it seems to prove one thing viz. that the art is so lost in the past that, in its present development, it antedates all history and all tradition. In the West, we may point to such and such an implement or method or improvement as having originated at such and such a date. In China, no such progress is discernible; agriculture is today what it was milleniums ago and what, if the Chinaman had his way, it would continue

to

to be for all time to come.

From that legendary time to the present, the Chinese have always been an agricultural people, and their emperors, without regard to race, whether Chinese, Mongol or Manchu, have encouraged this habit, doubtless seeing in it the greatest safeguard of the throne. The present dynasty has continued all the ceremonies instituted in ancient times tending to ennoble the occupation of the farmer. Even now the emperor makes an annual visit, at the vernal equinox, to the temple of agriculture and, after plowing with his own hands a few furrows, offers sacrifices at the four altars of the gods of heaven, the gods of earth, the planet Jupiter and the Emperor Shen Neng. In the Chinese theory of government example is of supreme importance, and this

annual

annual ceremony by the emperor is intended to illustrate to his subjects the honor and importance of agricultural pursuits.

Notwithstanding the antiquity of agriculture among them, the Chinese have failed to make any great progress in it. Their system of cultivation is very careful and is marked by attention to details, but shows ignorance of the principles of rotation of crops, adaptation of soils to particular grains and an extremely primitive knowledge of agricultural implements. Their fields are treated like immense gardens. They are subjected to the most constant and watchful care, both at the time of planting and during the growth of the grain. When ripe, the crop is gathered by hand with the utmost completeness, not a

straw

straw or leaf, scarcely even a root being allowed to remain.

In threshing grain, the Chinese spread it out on a smooth clay floor in the open air, there being such a threshing floor adjoining every farm-house, and, either by threshing with flails or by rolling a stone roller, drawn by a donkey, over it, detach the grain. The chaff is removed by tossing the grain into the air in a slight breeze, the kernels of grain falling straight to the ground, the chaff and dust being blown aside.

The two most characteristic features of Chinese agriculture are the use of manure and the systems of irrigation. Manure is gathered from all conceivable sources. In the cities, the nightsoil deposited on the sides of streets and alleys is gathered by men

and

and boys in buckets and mixed with clay, dried in the sun and sold to farmers. On country roads, boys, and often girls and women, are seen at places where large numbers of pack horses, camels and mules pass, gathering into baskets the material which is afterwards, with such beneficial effects, spread upon their fields. Earth from the canals, rivers and city streets is also carted away for the same purpose. The quantity of these fertilizers used and the importance the Chinese attach to them are proved by the number of people whose livelihood is gained in their collection.

In irrigating his land the farmer uses many devices. Where running water is at hand, he turns it to advantage by directing it over his fields in large channels, banked in

with

with clay, and subdivided into smaller and smaller streamlets, until every part of the ground has been reached. If no running water is found, wells are dug and water drawn up by hand and poured into the main ditches, which are subdivided into numerous smaller ones. Holes are dug, in which rain water accumulates which is baled out when needed. The raising of this water is, in most cases, especially in the vicinity of Peking, done very laboriously by hand. Windmills might be used for this purpose with great increase of efficiency and saving of human labor.

Chinese agricultural implements are of the rudest character. They are, chiefly, the plow, the hoe, the harrow, the rake, and the stone roller. The plow is simply a broad blade fastened to a

rough

rough handle. Guided by a man and drawn by teams of the most miscellaneous description, it cuts a furrow never more than six inches deep and frequently only two or three. The teams are made up of horses, donkeys, mules, bullocks and human beings, it being not unusual to see a man or a boy and any one or more of the animals above named drawing the same plow. Chinese farmers measure the depth of the furrows by the fingers and frequently speak of plowing only two or three fingers deep. The reason of this seems to lie in the difficulty of making a deeper furrow with their plows and not because they are unaware of the advantage of it. The hoe is a much more effective tool, and it is with this that they work between the furrows

of

of grain after it has sprouted.

Foreign agricultural implements, especially plows, might be introduced with good effect amongst the Chinese, except that the price would deter all but very few from buying them. A Chinese plow can be bought for the equivalent of two or three Mexican dollars, and smaller tools in proportion. There are no great stores devoted to the sale of agricultural implements as with us, they being made by hand either by a neighboring blacksmith, or by the farmer himself, as occasion demands. In the Canton province, a complete outfit for farming may be bought, it is said, for forty dollars Mexican. It includes—

A plow with two ploughshares	$2.00
Two harrows	2.50
A wooden pump or water-wheel	4.00
A threshing machine	2.50

a

a water-buffalo	$20.00
Hoes, sickles, baskets etc	9.00
	$40.00

In the north the outfit would cost much less, as the water-buffalo would be replaced by a donkey at $8 or $10, and the water-wheel would be unnecessary.

The unit of land measure in China is the mou, of which 6.61 constitute one English acre. This unit, however, is variable, being larger in some provinces than in others. In mountainous parts of North China, a curious system prevails of measuring land by the number of days it requires to plow it with one bullock. A man is said to owne "one half a month's land" or "ten days' land". One day's land is, approximately two thirds of an acre, English measure. Three days' land is a small holding, while some mountain

farmers

farmers own seventy or eighty. This system of measurement arises from the fact that the land in the mountains is cultivated along the mountain sides in long narrow terraces, many of which are required to make up an acre and whose area is difficult of estimation.

Nearly everything is grown in China that is grown abroad. The principal crops, however, are wheat, rice, beans, millet, sesamum, Indian corn, cotton, tobacco, the poppy, barley and buckwheat. Large areas are also devoted to the growth of mulberry trees for silkworm culture. A comparison of the yield of the fields of China with that of American farms would be interesting, if it could be accurately made. The difference between the styles of planting makes this difficult, the grain in America being sown broadcast,

or

drilled, while in China all cereals are carefully planted in furrows, wide distances apart. The absence of any statistics as to the average product per acre, such as are published in the United States, makes this comparison much more difficult. It is probable, however, that, in proportion to the quantity of seed sown, the farmer of North China gets a larger return than the average in America. This would be the natural result of his careful system of planting, harvesting and threshing, involving no loss whatever.

The condition of the agricultural classes, in comparison with other classes, is one of reasonable comfort. Their condition, however, is not the same all over China, the tendency seeming to be toward greater prosperity and

larger

larger holdings in the north and greater poverty and smaller holdings in the south. It is estimated that in Manchuria, for example, three English acres is the smallest quantity of land on which a family of six or seven people can live. Five acres mean comfort, while from ten to thirty acres are common holdings.

It is remarkable that in the southern provinces, where the soil is much more productive, the holdings are smaller and the average of comfort is lower. In Kwangtung, less than one sixth of an acre will support one "mouth", as the expressive Chinese phraseology is, while the proprietor of two acres of good land, having a family of five persons, may live without work from the product of the land. In the south, seven acres

would

would constitute wealth, while very few landowners have as much as one hundred. One strong man in Kwangtung can cultivate one acre, or three men five acres, where the land is favorably located.

In great contrast with this are the five hundred acre farms which are not uncommon in Manchuria. In other provinces the holdings vary between these two extremes. In Shantung, for example, less than two acres is the average holding while one hundred is very exceptional. In Shansi, three or four acres is an average and fifteen or twenty a large holding. In Kansuh, which is in the extreme northwest of China, the average holding is from fifty to sixty acres. In this province, there is a high average of comfort. The soil is productive,

the

crops numerous and varied. The large holdings and the comparative spareness of the population present a great contrast to the southern provinces, where many thousands are gathered together on their ancestral acres and famine and infanticide alone prevent such an overcrowding as to render life impossible.

It is out of the question to enter, in such a paper as this, into details as to all the provinces of China. Enough has been said, however, to show that this country presents no exception to the rule that a fertile soil, and ease of gaining a living therefrom, favor the increase of the human race at much cost to the individual. The sturdy Manchurian farmer, who requires twenty acres to support his family, and who is taught

the

the virtues of providence and thrift by the severity of his winters, is much more to be envied than his compatriot of the south, to whom clothing is scarcely a necessity and whose land can support nearly four thousand people to the square mile.

The profits of farming in China are not under any circumstances great. The large holdings are usually in the possession of ancient families and have been handed down from many generations intact and are held in common. It is not unusual for several hundred people, all of the same family, to hold a large tract in common. The Chinese share the aversion of oriental people to part with the land of their fathers, and their religious customs, which require

the

the performance of certain sacrifices to ancestors by the eldest son on behalf of the whole family, encourage this tenancy in common. The law of China on inheritance is that all sons shall inherit in equal proportions. The land may be divided between them by common consent, in which case the eldest son has a double share to defray the expenses of family sacrifices, but the younger sons cannot insist on a division against the will of elder. This statute, coupled with the clannish sentiment of the Chinese race and the greater ease of tilling a large tract intact than of tilling small pieces separately, has tended to prevent subdivision of large estates.

This feature of land-owning makes the above figures as to large holdings somewhat deceptive.

For

For instance, a report from Manchuria, published in the Journal of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, mentions several families holding some hundreds of acres each, but some of these families number over two hundred members living in large blocks of houses with a common gate and a single kitchen. The agregate wealth of such a family is great but the individual share of each is not enough to constitute affluence. A family by the name of Chén, in the province of Kiangsu, is stated to cultivate sixty six thousand acres, but it is not reported how many of the bearers of this surname are part owners of this splendid estate.

On the whole, it is probable that the incomes of land-owners, in the vast majority of cases,

Cover

cover only their expenses — enabling them to live in a greater or less degree of comfort — and the cost of keeping up their farms and their families. In fact, the opportunities of a Chinaman to invest surplus capital are few. There are none of the stock companies, manufacturing enterprises or other corporations, whose stocks and bonds absorb, to so large a degree, the earnings of western people. The Chinese capitalist's only resource is to buy more land, or to invest in a pawnshop, or to hoard his money. He frequently finds that his present holding is as large as he can conveniently handle, or, very often, no desirable land in his vicinity is for sale.

Some statistics are available on the subject of wages paid to hired farm laborers. These vary greatly in different provinces.

In

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In

In Manchuria, $15 to $20 Mex. per annum, and food and lodging, is the rule; in Chihli and Shantung $10 to $20; in Kanzuh $19 to $25; while in Chekiang, in favored districts, a man is said to be able to earn as much as $40 per annum in addition to his food and lodging. Small as these wages are, it must be remembered that the Chinaman's needs are few. His garments, shoes and hats included, when he has them, are all made from homespun cotton or woven of straw by the women of his family. In summer, the usual costume of an agricultural laborer, even in the northern provinces, is only a pair of cotton trousers, while children, for several months in the year go entirely naked. In winter the poorer classes wear wadded cotton garments and sheepskin

coats

coats, worn with the wool inside. In the south, these winter garments are, of course, unnecessary.

So it must be seen that utterly insignificant as an income of $20 Mex. per annum seems from our standpoint, it really suffices for many millions of this patient race, that is when provided with food, and yet, remarkable as it may seem, even this small wage is beyond the reach of many thousands who, every year, die from actual want.

The prosperity of a country may, to a certain degree, be estimated by a statement of the facility with which a man might attain to independence in it as compared with other countries. Of course, what would constitute independence in China would be the barest poverty in many other countries, but when we speak of sums of $100 or $1000 we must

remember

remember the entirely different purchasing power of this money here as well as the few necessities of the people and the miserable and squalid style of life to which they are accustomed. Let us examine, then, the length of time in which a young Chinese agricultural laborer, commencing life penniless, might, with health and strength, hope to be able to own his own plot of ground, to marry and to support a family as those around him do who are already established. Luckily, some statistics on this subject are at hand, and we shall see that China's place in such a comparison with other countries is not unfavorable.

Dr Macgowan, an indefatigable inquirer into Chinese social questions, states* that, in the vicinity of Ningpo, in Chekiang, 60% of the rice land is cultivated by

* Journal of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Shanghai, Nov. 1, 1886.

by non-owners, 40% by owners. These tenant farmers pay the landlords one half of the rice crop. One acre yields 19 piculs (a picul being 133⅓ lbs), giving to the landlord and tenant each about $21 Mex. The owner pays the land tax of $1.80 per acre, and the tenant is at liberty to raise any intervening crops on the land he pleases, which all belong to him and are estimated as worth $15 per acre. This brings the tenant's share up to $36 per acre per annum, while the landlord's profit is about 5%. Coming now to the field hand, we reach the substratum of labor. The average wage of an able bodied young man is $12 per annum, with food, lodging, straw shoes and free shaving — an important item in a country where heads must be shaved three or four times a month. His clothing costs

about

about $4 per annum, so that he may save, if he wishes, $8 per annum. In ten years he may buy 1/3 of an acre of land (value $150 per acre) and necessary implements. With this land he can support himself. In ten years more he may double his holding and become part owner in a water buffalo to assist him in cultivating it. In six more, he showed, with economy, be able to buy a wife and live comfortably on his hardly earned estate. This is, of course, an extreme case, the young man commencing with nil and receiving no assistance from his family, and to gain a competence in twenty six years under those circumstances would perhaps not be easy in more favored lands.

The theory of China with reference to the ownership of land

has

has always been that it is the property of the state and is held by private owners from the government on condition of payment of taxes. This theory is expressed in the two lines of the ancient classics:
"All the land in the world is the property of the sovereign" and
"All the dwellers on the land are the sovereign's servants".

This fiction aside, however, land is held in China on the same terms as any other property. In deeds for its conveyance, the language used is the same as for the sale of horses, merchandise or other property. It is held by the owner subject to the payment of a land tax. This tax is fixed in China at so much for each district and is demanded by the officers of the government from the district magistrate who, in turn, levies it on the landowners

under

under his jurisdiction. It varies in various parts of China according to the character of the soil and the value of the crops. For this purpose, land is described as upper, middle and lower. In Manchuria, for example, the upper grade pays 30¢ Mex. per acre, per annum, and the middle and lower the same, only, by a legal fiction, two acres of middle and three of lower are called one acre.

In Shantung and Chihli, in different localities, the tax varies from 10¢ to 30¢ or 40¢ per acre. In Shansi, it reaches $1.30 or more per acre. In some provinces, the land tax is paid in grain as well as money and, in some districts, this tax amounts to as much as one seventh of the total crop.

It is impossible to give any definite statement as to the

amount

amount of the tax all over the empire. The amount which is required of any particular district by the Board of Revenue at Peking is increased by the district magistrate and the surplus appropriated to his own use. Should a district unexpectedly become poor, as by flood or drought, it is not unusual for the authorities to remit the tax altogether, and a sudden access of prosperity leads to an increase of the levy. The total land tax of China has been estimated at between thirty and thirty five millions of taels.

There are many curious and interesting features of agriculture life in China on which the limits of this paper will not permit us to enter. Some reference, however, to the agrarian questions which have caused discussion and been the subjects of legislation

the

the world over will not be out of place. In China's history we may find many of the social troubles, which seem so new when they come upon us in the West, to have been experienced here centuries ago, and most of the proposed legal remedies have been tried and have failed in China as they are doomed to fail if tried elsewhere.

For instance, how to prevent the accumulation of land by capitalists to the injury of poorer people is a question that was considered by the Chinese more than two thousand years ago.* In the year B.C. 6, the Emperor Ai Ti, by the advice of his ministers, issued an edict limiting the amount of land held by any one owner to fifty acres, and three years were allowed for large owners to dispose themselves

* Journal of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society 1880 & 1884

themselves, after which period all land over that amount belonging to any individual escheated to the state. Land thereupon became cheap, but subsequent ministers, for their own advantage, set aside the decree and the endeavor to prevent monopoly was frustrated.

A subsequent attempt, under the Emperor Wang Mang, failed from other causes. He decreed that seventeen acres should be the limit of one person's possession, the surplus to be divided among the owner's clansmen and relations without compensation, and death to be the penalty for failure to comply after three years. So numerous, however, were the offenders that the law could not be enforced and was abandoned.

In the 5th century, another disposession of the wealthy was decreed, and seven acres were

given

given to every man and every woman to become their absolute property at the expiration of three years, on condition of having planted a certain number of trees. The effects, on this occasion, seem to have been good, but uniformity could not long be maintained.

A most remarkable episode was an attempt in the eleventh century to benefit the farmers, and improve agriculture generally, by loaning farmers the money of the state at 2% interest. The results were most disastrous. The public treasury was emptied and the greater part of the funds stolen before reaching the ploughmen for whom it was intended. Many abuses were practised and distress was universal.

During the reign of Chien Lung (1736-1796), who has been called

the

the Justinian of China, a memorial was presented to the Emperor urging that individual ownership be limited to one hundred and fifty acres. Chien Lung refused his assent to the proposition, pointing out that such laws were easy of evasion, were pernicious in their application and of benefit to no one.

It is impossible to refrain, in concluding this paper, from paying a tribute to China's agricultural classes. Living a life of poverty and toil, deprived of many of almost the necessities of life, they dwell in peace and contentment, forming the very basis and foundation of this empire. It is a splendid commentary on the system of government which has controlled so many millions of people without resort to a vast military organization or a powerful civil

Control

control. The secret of this contentment among China's masses and of the ease of governing them is not far to seek. It lies in the equality of her citizens before the law. The humblest rustic sees no stamp of inferiority on the forehead of his son. All avenues to power and to wealth are open to him who has the talent and the industry to enter them. The system of selecting officials by competitive examinations has done more than anything else to render easy the government of this people.

Chas. Denby Jr.
Secretary of Legation.

November 27th 1893.

No Law Times and Wmte Ex — 11 Jan 94

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JAN 20 1894

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Inform the Midwinter Exposition people.
Ack.
JAN 19 1894

22 Jan
V. "

No 1763.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 4th 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 19 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

The California International Exposition.

Synopsis

China remits export duties on exhibits sent thereto

No 1763.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 4th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, on the 30th ultimo, I informed the Tsungli Yamên that the California Midwinter International Exposition would open at San Francisco, in January next; that this Exposition was, in some sense, a continuation of the World's

Fair

fair at Chicago, and I asked that goods exported from China for exhibition thereat be exempted from the payment of export duties.

I have, this day, received from the Yamên a courteous answer, wherein it is stated that the remission of export duties on such exhibits is granted and the officials concerned will be notified thereof by telegraph, as requested by me.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

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JAN 30 1894
2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY
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JAN 20 1894
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No 1764.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 6th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 19 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Yamên's proposal for travelers to report en route

Synopsis

The foreign representatives disapprove of the proposition.

One enclosure.

No 1764.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 6th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1758, of the 15th of November, I had the honor to transmit a translation of a communication from the Yamên, wherein it requested the foreign representatives to devise a plan by which foreigners traveling in China should be required to report in person

to

to the magistrates through whose juridiction they might pass.

I enclose a copy of my answer, as dean, to that communication. It will be seen that the foreign representatives found themselves unable to agree to the proposed plan. I thoroughly concur in the conclusion arrived at.

1/1764

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Tungli Yamên No 25, Dec. 5th 1893.

Sole enclosure in No 1764

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên.

No 25. Dec. 5th 1893.

Your Highness
and Your Excellencies:

On the 10th of November, the Minister of the United States had the honor to receive from Your Highness and Your Excellencies a communication which set forth a communication from the Governor General of Hukuang to the Tsungli Yamên and one from the Taotai of Ching Chow, Chang and Shihnan to the Governor General.

The purport of these papers was that foreigners traveling in China should be required, when applying for passports, either at Peking or in the provinces, to report their intended movements, and, while traveling, should report in person to the subprefects

on

or magistrates found en route
their arrival as well as their
intended movements.

After setting forth these two
communications, Your Highness
and Your Excellencies conclude
by requesting the Minister of the
United States "to communicate
"with his Colleagues, consider
"the question presented and try
"to adopt, as quickly as practicable,
"a feasible plan of action and
"inform the Prince and Ministers
"thereof, so that they may instruct
"the high authorities of the
"provinces to act accordingly".

And Your Highness and Your
Excellencies further say; "The
"Yamen is, in this matter,
"actuated by a sincere desire
"to give protection to foreigners
"traveling under passports".

The Minister of the United
States duly transmitted to his
Colleagues the original and an

English

English translation of this important communication. Two meetings have been held by the Foreign Representatives to consider its contents, and, after mature deliberation, they have instructed the Minister of the United States to transmit to the Prince and Ministers the following answer thereto.

The Foreign Representatives appreciate the honorable and praiseworthy motive that produced the paper under consideration, it being, as stated by the Prince and Ministers, to ensure the protection of foreigners when traveling. They find themselves, however, unable to assent to the proposition that all foreigners, when traveling in China, shall report in person to the magistrates through whose jurisdiction they happen to pass. To do so would be

impracticable

impracticable. A heavy burden would be laid upon foreigners by such a rule, and the penalty suggested by the Taotai for failure to comply with it, towit: the forfeiture of protection, is by no means admissible.

A more serious objection, and one which is, to the minds of the foreign representatives, insuperable, is that the proposed rule would materially change the purport of the treaties. To make this apparent, the Minister of the United States calls attention to the provisions of the British treaty with China, signed at Tientsin 26th June 1858, which have been, in substance, incorporated in every treaty that has been made with China since that date.

Art. IX of that treaty reads as follows:

"British subjects are hereby

authorized

"authorized to travel, for their
"pleasure or for purposes of trade,
"to all parts of the interior
"under passports which will be
"issued by their consuls and
"countersigned by the local
"authorities. These passports,
"if demanded, must be produced
"for examination in the localities
"passed through. If the passport
"be not irregular the bearer
"will be allowed to proceed×××"

Art XVIII of the same treaty contains this language: "The "Chinese authorities shall, at "all times, afford the fullest "protection to the persons and "property of British subjects"××××.

It will be seen from the first article quoted that travelers are not required to report to officials en route, but are only required to exhibit their passports when a demand to do so is made. Such, the Minister

of

of the United States believes, is the rule existing in all countries where the system of passports prevails.

The Prince and Ministers will readily admit that it is not in the power of any foreign representative to add to or take from a treaty any material clause, and that their request cannot, therefore, be complied with.

It is questionable, also, whether the proposed rule would accomplish any good purpose. The presence of foreigners in any locality in the interior is immediately known to all the population, the officials included, and travelers perfectly understand that, in case of trouble, they have the right to apply to the officials for protection and that it is the duty of the local authorities to protect them.

He

The Minister of the United States takes this occasion to renew to the Prince and Ministers the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.

(Sig'd) Charles Denby.

Sincerely Yrs.
M. Denby
One Copy Fr
Customs Gazette
Dec 8 1893
Ack'd 26 Feb

No 1765.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 24 1894
RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JAN 24 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 8th, 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Forwards Customs Gazette.

No 1765.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 8th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward under separate cover duplicate copies of the Customs Gazette, July-September 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Disp

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 5 1894

No 1766.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 11th 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN. 24 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the Secretary of State

Rec'd. April 6/94.

Subject

The importation of machinery into China.

Synopsis

Answer to last paper of Yamên enclosed.

One enclosure.

No. 1766.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 11th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No. 1761, of the 20th ultimo, I enclosed a translation of a despatch from the Tsungli Yamên, relating to the importation of machinery into China. I have now the honor to enclose a copy of my reply, as Dean, to that despatch.

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It is altogether likely that,

for

for the present, this discussion will end. The Chinese Government seems determined not to allow machinery to be imported by foreigners at this time. To attain this object, it violates a treaty — a point that may be worth remembering in the discussion of other matters.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên, No. 28, Dec. 11th 1893.

Sole enclosure in No 1766

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamen.

No 28. December 11th 1893.

Your Highness
and Your Excellencies:

The Minister of the United States has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 18th ultimo. He is directed by the Ministers of France, Spain, Great Britain, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium, and the Chargés d'Affaires of Italy and Japan, to address you the following answer thereto.

You state that "machinery "was not originally mentioned "in the treaties, but, as it was "subsequently brought to the ports "of China and its use seemed "advantageous to the people, the "low duty of five per cent ad valorem "was levied upon it."

2t

It is true that the word machinery was not inserted in the tariff treaty, but it by no means follows from this verbal omission that the right to import machinery was not included in the treaty.

During this discussion, your attention has been frequently called to Rule I, attached to the treaty, to the effect, that articles not enumerated in the export or import list nor in the list of duty free goods should pay an ad valorem duty of five per cent.

There are hundreds, perhaps thousands, of articles of trade and commerce which are not enumerated in the tariff. Such articles are being added to every day either by new inventions or by the extension of commerce. Are the Foreign Representatives to understand that you hold that

that this rule means nothing and that, at your pleasure, you can, without violating the treaty, determine that no unenumerated article shall be imported or exported?

It is absolutely impossible to enumerate all the articles which enter into the commerce of mankind. To avoid the necessity of doing so, it is provided in all tariff treaties that articles not enumerated shall be imported or exported at a fixed rate. No harm can possibly arise from this system because prohibited articles are clearly and specifically named.

The commercial classes, the Imperial Maritime Customs, in fact all the world have always understood that machinery could be imported into China. Under this understanding, foreign manufacturers of machinery

have

have regulated their business. Machinery has been for years imported without objection into nearly all the treaty ports and into Formosa. Its prohibition now is a new departure which finds no support in the treaty.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies seem to realize this fact, because you adopt an entirely different line of argument. You say: "If this machinery, "however, interferes with the "peoples means of gaining their "livelihood xxx it properly "rests with the Chinese Government "itself to decide whether or not "its importation shall be permitted"

The pretended argument that the use of machinery injures the people is as old as the existence of machinery, and it has been shown to be without foundation in fact in nearly all the nations in the world.

In

In Shanghai it has been proven that the laboring classes have been largely benefitted by the use of machinery - If machinery injures the people, why do Chang Chih-tung, Li Hung-chang and other great men in China establish manufactories? Why do we find cotton factories, match factories, filatures, ginning machines, machines for curing and preparing tea, and many other like establishments, in various parts of China?

The Foreign Representatives claim that the prohibition of the introduction of machinery is, to that extent, a direct abrogation of the tariff treaty and, as such, is totally inadmissible. It is the duty of the Foreign Representatives to uphold treaty stipulations and, with this object, they direct the Minister of the United

States

States to address this further communication to Your Highness and Your Excellencies in order that there may be no misunderstanding upon the question raised.

(Sig'd) Charles Denby.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File.
aaa
JAN 24 1894

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JAN 24 1894

No 1767.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 24 1894
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, December 14th, 1893

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —
— Subject —
The Labor Question in China.

— Synopsis —
A paper of Mr. Jamieson enclosed.

No 1767. One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 14th, 1893

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to Enclose a copy of a paper on "The labor question in China" prepared by G Jamieson Esq. H. B. M's consul at Shanghai.

Mr. Jamieson concludes that China has not been within the memory of the present generation a great absorber of labor.

My opinion is that his conclusion is incorrect. China, like all the far East is the grave of labor.

Enclosure

Enormous quantities of it are
used in the arts for ornaments
personal and other.
He concludes secondly that the fall
in the gold price of silver appears
to have produced no effect on the
general level of prices of articles produced
and consumed in China.
At Peking prices of native articles
are beginning to be increased, and
as silver depreciates they will continue
to increase.
His conclusion that articles produced
in China and commonly exported
to gold-using countries have risen
in price is correct.
His last proposition, that the fall
in the price of silver has stimulated
exports, is unquestionably true.

As long as foreign merchants can buy with depreciated silver articles for Export and can sell them for gold exports will increase.

The paper is worth perusal, but it is almost necessarily as to its main proposition inconclusive. A comparison of the values of the imports and Exports of a country would ordinarily, no doubt, furnish correct statistics as to the import or Export of gold and silver, but in China no proper statistics are accessible. Neither the foreign custom house or whose reports Mr. Jamieson cites, them is the native custom house. The latter furnishes no statistics of the immense trade which passes through

through it.

In the absence of such statistics it would seem to be impossible to determine the quantity of silver which is imported into China.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Paper as above.

THE SILVER QUESTION IN CHINA.

Report on the Consumption of Silver in China as shown by the Balance of Trade between China and Foreign Countries, and on the effect of the Fall in Silver on prices of Commodities in China and on the Volume of Exports.

BY

G. JAMIESON, H. M. Counsul,

Shanghai.

In the following pages I propose to review the General Trade between China and Foreign countries during the last 23 years, with a view to showing: 1.—To what extent China has been an importer or exporter of the precious metals since 1870. 2.—What has been the effect of the fall in the value of silver on prices of:—*(a)* Articles of Native origin commonly exported to Foreign countries; *(b)* Articles of Native origin commonly produced for consumption in China itself. 3.—What has been the effect of the fall of silver in stimulating the volume of exports from China?

Preliminary Observations.

China would seem to be peculiarly well situated for observing phenomena connected with changes in the value of the precious metals. There is a fair stock of both gold and silver in the country. Neither is produced to any extent at the present day within the country itself, but there is perfect freedom of transport to and from Foreign countries. There is no legislation in the country giving either metal a preference over the other as a medium of exchange. By common consent silver is so used, not, however, in the form of national coins bearing a certain standard of value, but simply by weight, as one commodity might be exchanged for another. There is nothing to prevent gold being used in payment, if the parties so desire, and if so used, it would be taken by weight. The relative value of gold and silver changes day by day, and closely follows the exchange on the London market.

The Government of China has not been a borrower in the Foreign market to any appreciable extent. Small loans have been contracted from time to time, but at the present moment they are nearly all paid off. There has never, therefore, been any disturbance of values by the sudden augmentation of the stock of the precious metals in the country, and whatever minor effects the temporary borrowing may have had, have been counteracted by the subsequent repayment.

Again, all the conditions regarding mode and cost of production of commodities in the interior have remained unchanged. The same methods of agriculture, of manufacture, and of transport are still in vogue as were used, not merely 20 years, but 100 or several 1,000 years ago. There has been no cheapening of production, as in all western countries, by the introduction of machinery, the substitution of steam for manual labour, or by improved facilities of transport. With the exception of the steamboat service on the coast, the means of transport remain such as they have always been within the memory of man. The facilities provided for the interchange of commodities between the ports open to Foreign trade through Foreign steamers, have doubtless cheapened the productions of one province to the consumers of another, but on the whole, it does not appear that the cost of articles at the port of production has been affected thereby.

The Foreign trade of China now amounts to a total of some 52,000,000*l.* sterling, being the equivalent at the present rate of exchange of 235,000,000 Haikwan taels. This was composed for last year of imports, 27,000,000*l.*,

and exports, 25,000,000*l*. The trade is thus large enough to allow free play to the adjustment of values through competition with those of the rest of the world.

If, for instance, any article of general demand—say wool, or silk, or cotton—was found to be cheaper in China than elsewhere, competition would at once set in, and buyers would bid against one another until the equilibrium was restored. This result will be the same whether the relative cheapness is caused by a difference in the exchange value of gold and silver or is due to other causes. Say that a sovereign will buy in London at any given time, a pound of raw silk and at the same time exchanges for 6 dol. in China, the price of a pound of raw silk in Shanghai will tend to conform to a standard of 6 dol., less duty and costs of transport. If, then, by a fall in rates of exchange the sovereign will produce 7 dol. in China, the price of silk in London remaining constant, the price of silk in Shanghai is 1 dol. a pound below the London price. Competition at once sets in, and the price in Shanghai is quickly raised to 7 dol. Or suppose, again, that the price of a pound of silk in London falls to 17s., while the gold value of silver falls as before, so that the 17s. will produce in China approximately 6 dol. The price of silk in China will not be affected, but the price of gold will. Gold, as a commodity, is then 15 per cent. cheaper in China than in London, and Foreign buyers will bid against one another so long as any holders can be found willing to sell until equilibrium is restored.

It is thus evident that changes in the relative value of gold and silver arising in Europe will, through the agency of international commerce, immediately have their full effect in the altered purchasing power of the two metals all the world over, and in China no less than elsewhere; and inasmuch as, for the reasons before stated, the problems connected with cost of production which complicate questions of this nature in Europe, and even in India, are here absent, it would seem that China is a very favourable field for observing the effect of the fall in silver on prices generally.

1.—Question of the Balance of Trade in the Foreign Commerce of China. Imports and Exports of Bullion.

The first point I wish to examine, is the effect of Foreign trade on the stock of the precious metals in the country.

Unfortunately, no statistics of the movements of bullion are available until a comparatively recent date. The only agency by which information of this kind could be collected and preserved is the Imperial Maritime Customs. Statistics of the values of imports and exports of merchandise have been published by this department since about the year 1863, and ever since 1870 the returns have been compiled with great care, and may now be accepted as being as accurate as the nature of the case will allow. Unfortunately, however, the import and export of bullion formed an exception. As bullion paid no duty, no permit was required for its being shipped or landed, and consequently no accurate check was possible on the quantities entering or leaving the country. To some extent these drawbacks are still in operation, but a greater desire on the part of the Customs authorities to ensure accuracy, and a greater willingness on the part of merchants and bankers to co-operate, have combined to make the returns of bullion published for the last four or five years fairly trustworthy.

The only means, therefore, by which a general notion can be got of the extent to which silver has been entering or leaving the country during the last 20 years, is by a comparison of the values of the imports and exports. If these are accurately given they ought either to balance, or, if they do not, the difference must be made up by a corresponding import or export of either gold or silver. There is no private transmission of capital from Europe for investment to any extent and the Chinese Government having, as I said, practically paid off the only small loans she ever contracted, there is no national indebtedness on the one side or the other to complicate the account other than that arising from the summing-up of the year's transactions.

I propose, then, to examine the returns published by the Chinese Imperial Customs, with a view of ascertaining on which side the balance of trade lies, and to what extent. These returns, however, require several corrections before they can be used for this purpose. If the annual values of the imports and exports as there given are added together, say for the past 20 years, it will appear as if the imports out-valued the exports by some 2,000,000*l*. per annum, and that, therefore, there has been a constant outflow of the precious metals to that extent. This is by no means the true state of facts, and a few brief explanations are necessary to show what corrections and allowances must be made.

In the first place, the values given in these returns are the market values at the port of landing or shipment, as the case may be. A moment's consideration will show that this is not the value at which the one sort of merchandise can be set off against the other, that is, the imports against the exports. Take, for instance, a consignment of Manchester goods arriving from England for sale by a local agent which fetches on the market 10,000 taels. The whole of this sum is not available for remittance to the owner in England. The local agent, before he can put the goods on the market, has had to pay duty and landing charges, perhaps also storage and insurance, and he expects also a commission as seller. He makes up his account thus:—

	Amount.
Paid duty ... ...Tls.	500
Commission and charges... ... ... „	400
Balance to be remitted ... ... „	9,100
Total ... ...Tls.	10,000

If his principal has instructed him to invest the proceeds in Native produce for shipment to London, instead of remitting, he will take care to purchase only such an amount as will leave him enough in hand to pay the export duty and his commission and charges. His account will then run thus:—

	Amount.
Bought, say 500 piculs tea @ 15 taels Tls.	7,500
Paid duty at 2.50 taels ... ... „	1,250
Commission and charges ... ... „	350
Total ... ...Tls.	9,100

The transaction is thus closed from an international point of view; there is no balance to be remitted on either side. But it is evident that it would be quite erroneous to represent, as the Customs returns do, that the double transaction meant that imports to the value of 10,000 taels had come into the country and exports to the value of 7,500 taels had left. What really took place was an import of the value of 9,100 taels and an export of an identical value.

It will be noticed that I have taken no note of freight outward. This, though usually paid and charged by the exporting agent, does not really enter into the transaction, because if paid by the shipper it has to be remitted by the agent of the vessel to the shipowner; all ocean-going vessels being Foreign-owned, and so comes to the same thing as if not paid here at all. So I have not allowed anything for importer's profit, but only selling commission, as that is in the long run what meets the local expenditure of the Foreign merchants or agents. If they are themselves principals they will call whatever surplus remains over after the transaction is closed, profit, but in so far as this exceeds a commission, it will eventually be remitted to the country of the Foreign merchant.

The Customs returns must therefore be corrected by deducting from the imports and adding to exports, duty and charges in each case. The Customs authorities have recognised the necessity of this correction, and have, since 1890, introduced into the returns for each port an amendment purporting to show the true values of imports and exports at the moment of landing and shipment respectively. With the general principle and the reasons given for the correction I entirely agree, but it seems to me that in making the correction an error of fact has been introduced which overstates the values very considerably in favour of China, and leaves the result still untrustworthy. I allued to the per-centage which is added to exports and deducted from imports by way of commission and charges.

This is taken for imports at 7 per cent., and for exports at 8 per cent. These figures, so far as I have been able to ascertain, are far too large. The true way to look at the Foreign trade of China, which is all done by Foreign capital, is to regard it, so far as local charges go, as purely a commission business. What ought to be deducted from market value of imports under this heading, is the sum of all local expenditure incurred in carrying on the business, *i.e.*, everything paid locally and spent in the country. So for exports you must add all expenditure accruing to China between the purchase in the market and the point of shipment. This is a matter of fact, which can only be determined by a reference to those that know, and collating all the information that I have been able to gather, I think that 4 per cent. all round is enough to cover everything. This, of course, is exclusive of duty, the amount of which is known, and on this basis I have made the calculations that follow.

The next point to be noticed is that, previous to 1887, the Customs returns did not represent the whole of the Foreign trade of China. The proximity of the colony of Hongkong to the mainland of China enables a large trade to be carried on by Native junks, which have for many years imported, into the several towns along the southern coast, quantities of Foreign

manufactures, and have conveyed into Hongkong more or less of Native produce destined for Foreign consumption, neither of which came within the purview of the Foreign Maritime Customs. No statistics were obtainable at the Native offices, and, Hongkong being a free port, no information as to the values of junk cargoes was to be procured on that side. Consequently it was impossible to form any accurate sort of estimate as to the amount of this trade, or as to the proportion which the imports bore to the exports. One thing, however, was known, and that was that almost all the Indian opium consumed in Southern China entered by these junks, and not through the Foreign Customs. This alone made it quite certain that a great deal more in value entered China by this means than came out. It was estimated that from 15,000 to 18,000 chests of opium entered China in this way, which, at an average cost in Hongkong of 350 taels per chest, made an indebtedness on the part of China and increased the national bill against her by some 5,000,000 taels to 6,000,000 taels per annum.

In 1887 the control of the junk trade between Hongkong and the mainland was by international convention placed in the hands of the Maritime Customs, since which time we have had accurate accounts published of all merchandise passing between Hongkong and China in Native craft. The first and most conspicuous result of this, was that the import of Indian opium into Canton by steamer, which had for many years been merely nominal, suddenly sprang to 6,000,000 taels in 1888, and has remained since at between 5,000,000 taels and 6,000,000 taels. I find that during the five years, 1888 to 1892, the values of the junk cargoes, including such opium as they carry, approximately balance each other. Reasoning backwards, then, from what has been ascertained since the junk trade came under review, I conclude that the value of the Foreign imports into China by way of junk exceeded the exports by about 5,000,000 taels. This, therefore, is the sum which must be added to the imports into China each year in making up the balance prior to 1887.

A small amount of trade finds its way by junk to other Foreign ports, but this can have no appreciable effect on the general result, and it may be said that we have thus accounted for the whole of the sea-borne trade of China. As to what takes place on the western or northern frontier, we have no information, and for the present that must be left out of account. The brick tea trade with Russian Siberia, I may add, is accounted for in the Customs Returns.

There are several other items which ought to be noticed, if a strictly accurate account is to be taken, between China and Foreign nations, but I content myself here by merely indicating them without attempting to strike a balance between those that make for and those that make against China. I do so, firstly, because I have no data that can be entirely relied upon; and secondly, because, taking a rough estimate, the one set of items may be considered as on the whole a fair set-off against the other.

To the debit of China are the following:—

1. Rents and profits from Foreign capital invested in China. The value of land alone within the Foreign Settlement of Shanghai is estimated at about 20,000,000 taels, and the buildings thereon may be taken as worth half as much. This gives a total of 30,000,000 taels, of which perhaps half is owned by Foreigners resident out of the country, mostly, of course, in England. Taking interest on this at 6 per cent. to 7 per cent., we have an annual sum to be remitted of about 1,000,000 taels on this head alone. The like profits from other ports would, of course, swell this considerably.

2. Earnings of Foreign-owned vessels engaged in the coasting trade, so far as divisible abroad, and remittances for purchase of new steamers both Foreign and Chinese owned.

3. Expenditure on Chinese Government account for vessels of war, and for purchase of arms and munitions of war, for machinery for Government arsenals, and for expenses connected with Legations and Consulates abroad.

And lastly, there are still small annual payments to be made in respect of the interest of unexpired loans. I do not include the principal as that would merely be a cross entry.

All these items must amount to a very considerable sum per annum, but they are fully balanced by the considerations on the other side which are:—

1. Disbursements in Chinese ports of Foreign-owned vessels engaged in the international trade. As no freight is assumed to be payable in China, an allowance must be made for ships' disbursements, tonnage dues, and repairs while in Chinese waters.

2. Wages and other disbursements of Foreign men-of-war serving on China station.

3. Salaries and expenses of Foreign Legations and Consulates in China, as also Salaries and expenses of Missionaries, no inconsiderable item.

4. And last, there are the earnings and savings of Chinese in Foreign ports—San Francisco, Australia, Java, Manila, the Straits Settlements, &c., all of which ultimately find their way to China. This must be a very large item, and one which is probably increasing.

It being, however, impossible, with our present information, to strike any exact balance between these opposing accounts, I leave them to stand against each other.

Allowing for the various corrections and additions in the manner I have indicated, the balance of trade between China and Foreign countries presents itself as follows:—

TABLE OF IMPORTS INTO, AND EXPORTS FROM, CHINA, DURING THE YEARS 1865-92, SHOWING BALANCE FOR AND AGAINST CHINA EVERY YEAR.*

Year.	Imports. Hk. Tls.	Exports. Hk. Tls.	Balance for China Hk. Tls.	Balance against. Hk. Tls.
1865	55,861,000	60,161,000	4,300,000	—
1866	66,352,000	56,280,000	—	10,072,000
1867	61,930,000	58,167,000	—	3,763,000
1868	62,596,000	68,691,000	6,096,000	—
1869	66,091,000	67,114,000	1,023,000	—
1870	62,720,000	61,771,000	—	949,000
1871	68,606,000	74,773,000	6,167,000	—
1872	66,096,000	84,139,000	18,043,000	—
1873	65,320,000	77,207,000	11,887,000	—
1874	63,125,000	74,915,000	11,790,000	—
1875	66,344,000	77,308,000	10,964,000	—
1876	68,558,000	89,856,000	21,298,000	—
1877	71,296,000	75,845,000	4,549,000	—
1878	68,952,000	75,661,000	6,709,000	—
1879	79,290,000	81,150,000	1,860,000	—
1880	76,689,000	87,694,000	11,005,000	—
1881	88,432,000	81,179,000	—	7,253,000
1882	75,110,000	76,617,000	1,507,000	—
1883	71,400,000	79,163,000	7,763,000	—
1884	70,650,000	76,121,000	5,471,000	—
1885	84,803,000	73,899,000	—	10,904,000
1886	84,163,000	87,328,000	3,165,000	—
1887	94,701,000	95,932,000	1,231,000	—
1888	111,662,000	102,596,000	—	9,066,000
1889	99,056,000	107,203,000	8,147,000	—
1890	113,082,000	96,695,000	—	16,387,000
1891	118,733,000	111,499,000	—	7,234,000
1892	120,753,000	113,101,000	—	7,652,000

The most noticeable features in this table are these:—

1st. From 1865 up to 1870 the imports and exports very nearly balance.

2nd. From 1871 to 1880 there is a uniform balance in favour of China, indicating a flow of silver from Europe to China. The total amount of silver thus absorbed would appear to be about 100,000,000 taels, of a sterling value of 30,000,000*l.* The value of the tael fell in those 10 years continuously from 6*s.* 8*d.* in 1872, to 5*s.* 8*d.* in 1880.

3rd. During the period from 1881 to 1887, the imports, and exports again approximately balance, and from 1888 to date there has been an adverse balance against China, amounting in the aggregate to about 32,000,000 taels, and indicating a corresponding drain of one or other of the precious metals from China. The value of the tael was approximately steady from 1879 to 1884 at 5*s.* 7*d.* From 1884 to 1892 it has fallen continuously from 5*s.* 7*d.* to 4*s.* 4*d.* It is thus impossible to trace any direct relation between the value of the tael and the proportion between imports and exports.

No sufficient data are obtainable for a reliable return of the import and export of treasure so as to check the accuracy of these figures, prior to 1888. Since that year, however, statistics of the movement of bullion and specie between China and Foreign countries have been published by the Customs authorities, and I present in the following table a summary of the net result:—

TABLE SHOWING NET MOVEMENT OF TREASURE DURING THE YEARS 1888-92.

	Imports.		*Exports.*	
Year.	Gold. Hk. Tls.	Silver. Hk. Tls.	Gold. Hk. Tls.	Silver. Hk. Tls.
1888	—	—	1,678,000	1,911,000
1889	—	6,005,000	1,625,000	—
1890	—	—	1,783,000	3,557,000
1891	—	—	3,693,000	3,113,000
1892	—	—	7,332,000	4,825,000

Combining the two tables together from the year 1888, we get the following result:—

	Imports.		*Exports.*	
Year.	Merchandise. Hk. Tls.	Treasure. Hk. Tls.	Merchandise. Hk. Tls.	Treasure. Hk. Tls.
1888	111,662,000	—	102,596,000	3,589,000
1889	99,056,000	6,005,000	107,203,000	1,625,000
1890	113,082,000	—	96,695,000	5,340,000
1891	118,733,000	—	111,499,000	6,806,000
1892	120,753,000	—	113,101,000	12,157,000
Total	563,286,000	6,005,000	531,094,000	29,517,000
Total Imports, Treasure and Merchandise	569,291,000			
Total Exports, Treasure and Merchandise	560,611,000			

The small discrepancy between the two sides of the account may, I think, be easily explained by ascribing it to the increased earnings of the crowds of Chinese who now find profitable employment in Singapore, Penang, and the

* Values in Haikwan taels, the exchange of which in London, varies, from 6*s.* 6*d.* in 1866-73 to 4*s.* 4*d.* in 1892.

other settlements of the Malayan Peninsula. In speaking of the subordinate matters which enter into the account for and against China, I assumed that they mutually balanced. But it may well be that there is, on the whole, a balance in favour of China arising from the remittances of her emigrants, and that this enters the country as merchandise and not as treasure. As the figures stand, China appears to have got some 8,500,000 taels in the 5 years more than she has paid for, and the suggestion is that she pays for it in this way, viz.: by using the savings of her subjects abroad which would otherwise come as treasure.

It is thus apparent that, though the foregoing tables do not accurately balance, they mutually confirm each other, and fully establish two facts:—

1st. That China has taken no silver off the European market for a number of years, and,

2nd. That there has been a small but increasing flow of gold from China to Europe.

By way of further illustrating the movements of the precious metals as between China and Foreign countries, I present a summary of an unofficial return which has been furnished me by one of the banks in Hongkong, showing the imports into and exports from Hongkong of specie and bullion for the years 1884-92. This return considers Hongkong as forming one group with China, which indeed for statistical purposes it may be deemed to be, and takes note only of gold or silver coming into Hongkong from Foreign countries, or leaving Hongkong for Foreign countries.

RETURN OF TREASURE ENTERING AND LEAVING HONGKONG FROM AND TO ALL PLACES OTHER THAN CHINA DURING THE YEARS 1884-92.

	Imports.		*Exports.*	
Year.	**Gold.**	**Silver.**	**Gold.**	**Silver**
	Hk. Tls.	**Hk. Tls.**	**Hk. Tls.**	**Hk. Tls.**
1884	600,000	11,047,000	3,020,000	6,997,000
1885	170,000	8 119.000	5,772,000	10,604,000
1886	695,000	6,912.000	2,640,000	5,100,0 0
1887 1	,385,000	7,659,000	3,870,000	7,742,000
1888 1	,175,000	4,653,000	4,289,000	9,915,000
1889 1	,045,000	9,305,000	4,099,000	5,236,000
1890 1	,323,000	5,385,000	2,927,000	8,212,000
1891 1	,027,000	4,814,000	4,075,000	8,775,000
1892 1	,583,000	7,960,000	6,140,000	5,483,000
Total..8	**,853,000**	**65,854,000**	**38,812,000**	**68,064,000**

	Value.	
	Currency.	**Sterling.**
	Hk Tls.	**£**
Net export of gold for 9 years..	**27,959,000**	**..**
Equivalent, at average exchange, to	**..**	**6,989,000**
Net export of silver for 9 years.	**2,210,000**	**..**
Equivalent to	**..**	**552,000**

This return must not be taken for more than it is intended, viz.: a rough estimate of the amount of specie or bullion entering and leaving China by way of Hongkong. It does not purport to represent the whole movement of the precious metals between China (including Hongkong) and Foreign countries, because a great deal is imported direct into Shanghai both from Europe and America, and it is on this point that statistics are wanting prior to 1888. But taking the return as far as it goes, it does seem to confirm the conclusion already come to, viz.: that China has not been, for the last 10 years, an importer of silver to any appreciable extent.

This will probably appear surprising to many and contrary to what might reasonably have been expected in view of the great fall in the price of silver, but the facts seem too strong to admit of any other conclusion. Why it should be so I cannot otherwise explain than by saying that the Chinese are ready and willing customers for our manufactures to the full extent of their means, and even a little over. Their own exports have grown fairly well, as will be seen by a reference to the foregoing table, but their imports have fully kept pace. They invest all the proceeds of what they sell in Foreign wares, and they have, in addition, been sending a good deal of gold and a small amount of silver to pay for their purchases.

The amount of gold sent out of the country during the last ten or fifteen years must be considerable, and it is a question of some interest to ascertain where it comes from. A certain quantity is simply a re-export of gold sovereigns brought by returned emigrants from San Francisco and Australia, but the bulk of it is a genuine export of the country itself. So far as we know no gold mines are now worked to any extent within the bounds of China Proper. A small amount finds its way down from the Russo-Siberian frontier and from certain gold washings in the Amoor River, but that cannot be much.

The gold for export comes mainly from the private hoards of wealthy Chinese where it may have been for generations in the shape of bracelets, hair-pins and other ornaments, being tempted out by the unprecedentedly high price now paid for it. There is also a considerable amount of gold in the shape of bars which pass especially in the north as an article of commerce. It is said that one of the principal uses to which such bars are put is to serve as the medium in which presents are made to high officials.

In one form or other a very considerable amount of gold exists in China, and I apprehend that there will be, so long as the present rate of exchange lasts, a continuous export to Europe.

2. Purchasing Power of Silver.

I now come to the second of the questions I proposed to discuss, viz., the endeavour to ascertain whether the prices of commodities in China have altered during the last 20 years; in other words, whether the purchasing power of silver has varied with the varying exchange.

To illustrate this I have compiled three tables of prices of commodities, which are hereto appended and marked A, B, and C.

The first, Table A, comprises articles which are exclusively, or principally both produced and consumed in China.

The second, Table B, comprises articles produced in China, but destined for the most part for Foreign consumption.

The third, Table C, comprises articles produced abroad but consumed in China.

The prices given in Table A are compiled from Customs values, and are, as far as possible, the prices at the ports of production. The prices in Tables B and C are compiled either from Customs values or from Chamber of Commerce price lists and other contemporaneous market reports. All three tables are, I believe, as accurate as the nature of the case will allow. At all events, they represent beyond dispute the general tendency of prices, spread over a series of years.

An examination of those tables will, I think, establish the following conclusions:—

1. As regards articles which are both produced and consumed in China, silver prices have on the whole tended to decline. There is a moderate rise in a few articles, principally food stuffs, but all over there is a decline of about 9 per cent.

2. As regards articles of Native origin exported to Foreign countries, the silver price has not advanced with the fall in exchange. Prices, on the whole, are almost exactly on the level of the years 1870 to 1874.

3. As regards articles of Foreign manufacture or production imported for sale in China, the average price in silver has declined very considerably.

Chinese can now obtain their supplies at a less cost even in silver than they could 20 years ago by some 26 per cent.

In other words, the purchasing power of silver has not declined in respect to any of the classes of commodities, and has even considerably increased in respect of the first and last classes.

The purchasing power of gold, on the other hand—that is its local market value—has steadily advanced with every successive fall in the rates of exchange on London, till now 4*s.* will purchase what formerly required 6*s.* 6*d.*, or 60*l.* will now do what used to require 100*l.* This is best illustrated by putting the gold and silver prices side by side as follows:—

The several quantities of commodities enumerated in the tables could have been bought as below.

Those in Table A could have been bought:—

Year.	Amount. Currency. Hk. Taels.	Sterling. £ *s.*
In 1873...	81·56	26 10
1892...	74·27	16 12

Table B.

Year.	Amount. Currency. Hk. Taels.	Sterling. £ *s.*
In 1873...	375·06	121 17
1892...	381·21	83 0

Table C.

Year.	Amount. Currency. Hk. Taels.	Sterling. £ *s.*
In 1873	43.09	14 0
1892	29.96	6 10

As regards Table A the result arrived at will not appear surprising. The only way, it would seem, in which Foreign trade or the fluctuations of Foreign exchanges can affect internal prices, *i.e.*, prices of articles which are not in demand for Foreign trade, is by drawing away or bringing in one or other of the precious metals. If the result of Foreign trade is to cause a flow of silver into or out of the country, the value or the purchasing power of silver will tend to fall or rise as the case may be, and so with gold. But, as we have seen, there has been no great addition to the stock of silver in China during the period under review, and consequently we ought not to expect a general rise in prices. The fluctuations which we find in the prices of commodities in Table A can, indeed, be shown to coincide closely with the greater or less supply of silver. From 1870 to 1880 there was a continuous favourable balance of trade, indicating a flow of silver into China.

Accordingly we find there is during this period a tendency of prices to advance. From 1880 onwards there has been no silver coming to China, and as without this extraneous supply the stock in the country is insufficient to meet the growing wants of commerce, the price of commodities tends to fall.

As regards Table B, the conclusions to be drawn from that are more perplexing.

Given an equilibrium of prices at any time between a silver-using and gold-using country, say, between China and England, any subsequent fall in the gold price of silver must, it would seem, have in respect to exports from China one or other of three results. It must either raise the price to the Chinese producer, or it must lower the price to the English consumer, or the difference must remain as profit in the pockets of the middlemen.

The last alternative is of course excluded as a permanent result. The immediate effect of a fall is no doubt to enable the merchant to realize a better profit on merchandise at the time in transit, but competition quickly puts an end to this. As between the other two alternatives one would be disposed to say "a priori" that the larger market would rule and that the gold price would tend to remain steady, leaving the adjustment to be made at the other side. In that case the silver price in China must rise.

But it does not appear to be so. It is, I believe, a well-known fact in the commercial world, that it is always much easier to lower prices than to raise them. If you can afford to go down a $\frac{1}{2}d.$ a bargain is much more easily struck than if you are bound to stand out for a rise of a $\frac{1}{2}d.$ It would seem then to be a general rule that adjustments following on a fall of exchange are *always made along the line of least resistance*, and that therefore it is not the China price that rises, but the London price that falls. Merchants operating on the usual principles find it easier to buy Asiatic produce at the old prices and sell it in London at a concession, than to stand out for old prices at home, in order to be able to pay more to the producer.

The experience of the last 20 years shows that with every fall in the gold price of silver, there has invariably been a simultaneous lowering in the gold price of commodities in Europe. This has variously been ascribed to the scarcity of gold or to the greater strain thrown upon existing stocks by its extended use, or to a reduction in the cost of production, but may it not be ascribed principally or entirely to the competition of the produce of silver-using countries? If it is a fact that there has been no general rise in the silver price of produce in India and China and other silver-using countries, or a less rise than the fall in silver should produce, then the gold price of such produce when imported into Europe must necessarily have fallen with the fall in exchange.

From this point of view it is really silver that rules the world; it is the purchasing power of the cheaper metal that determines the price all over. Just as in a bi-metallic country the cheaper metal will drive out the dearer towards her mono-metallic neighbours, so, as between countries of different standards, will the prices prevailing in the country of the cheaper metal drag down prices all over to their own level. And reasoning forward from the experience of the past, it would not, perhaps, be too rash to conclude that prices of commodities in Europe, so far as these can be drawn in any fair quantity from silver-using countries, must continue to decline with every further fall in silver.

3. Volume of Exports.

In regard to the third matter of inquiry which I proposed to discuss, viz., how far the fall in silver has stimulated exports from China, an answer has in effect been supplied by the foregoing remarks. There has been a stimulus, but not such a stimulus as might have been expected. The stimulus has been a readiness on the part of Foreign merchants to buy Native produce of all sorts at current quotations, but not the stimulus which comes from offering higher prices.

Such as it is, however, it has developed the exports very considerably, especially within the last few years. In 1872 the exports of China stood in value approximately as follows:—

Articles.	*Value.* Hk. Tls.
Silk and silk products	26,000,000
Tea, all kinds	38,000,000
Miscellaneous	7,000,000

In 1892 the figures were—

Articles.	*Value.* Hk. Tls.
Silk and silk products	38,292,000
Tea, all kinds	25,983,000
Miscellaneous	38,308,000

The following table indicates in some detail the particular lines in which the general exports from China have developed. The prices of these articles will be found in Tables A and B.

Article.	*Value.* 1872. Hk. Tls.	1880. Hk. Tls.	1892. Hk. Tls.
Silk, raw	23,762,000	23,227,000	27,736,000
,, waste	293,000	947,000	2,603,000
,, piece-goods ..	2,138,000	3,423,000	6,900,000
Tea, black & green.	37,204,000	33,464,000	23,476,000
,, brick	785,000	2,[illegible]00	2,503,000
Peas and beans ..	246,000	160,[illegible]10	1,187,000
Cotton, raw (for Japan)	394,000	180,000	5,089,000
Hides	17,000	253,000	495,000
Straw braid	84,000	1,227,000	2,056,000
Wool	14,600	30,000	1,545,000
Skins and rugs	5,200	152,000	1,315,000
Paper	240,000	512,000	1,572,000
Matting	438,000	533,000	1,292,000
Sugar, brown	618,000	2,452,000	1,609,000
Tobacco	137,000	168,000	1,074,000

Tea has always figured so prominently as one of the products of China, that it could not be omitted from any list of exports, but the causes operating of late years to effect both its price and the volume of the export have been so exceptional that it ought not, perhaps, to be included in a table from which it is sought to draw general conclusions. As will be seen, both the price and the quantity have fallen off very much, owing, of course, to the Indian competition. If tea, *i.e.*, black tea, to which alone these remarks apply, were excluded from Table B, the figures then would indicate a small general rise of prices.

The price of raw silk has shown a tendency to decline, but silk has lately recovered, and now stands at about the level of 1873. The average value of China manufactured silk has advanced slightly, and the export has more than trebled.

The prices of straw braid and wool have advanced some 15 per cent. or 16 per cent., with a large increase of export; but, on the other hand, the price of raw cotton, the export of which has grown more than that of anything else, has been steady, and the prices of tobacco, paper and sugar, all of which show a large growth of export, have all gone down. It may, however, be remarked that these are not exports to Europe, but to silver-using countries such as Japan, Singapore, &c., and so ought rather to be classed with domestic trade.

It is thus difficult to formulate any general rule as to a relation between prices and volume of export, but it may be said that on the whole, leaving tea out of account, there has been a small advance in silver prices of articles sent to gold-using countries, and to this extent there has been a direct stimulus to exports. There seems every reason to expect that this tendency will be greatly enhanced in the near future, in view of the recent action of the Indian Government in fixing the value of the rupee in gold, which will probably have the double effect of still further depreciating silver and of limiting the silver using area whence produce can be drawn for the European markets. Whenever silver falls below the normal line of 1*s.* 4*d.* for the rupee, Indian produce will, it would seem, be unable to compete on the old terms with that of China. The area of cheaper produce being thus narrowed, it is probable that the price in London will not continue to fall or will not fall so much, and that will necessarily mean enhanced prices in China and an increased export.

It unfortunately happens that, outside of tea and silk, China does not produce many articles that are of universal demand. Her one great industry is agriculture, but agriculture to supply her own wants. The export of rice, wheat, and cereals of all kinds, except peas and beans, is absolutely forbidden. If this were otherwise, it is probable that the exports of China might grow very fast, but as things are, I do not look for any very rapid expansion.

It follows, therefore, that it is impossible to expect that China will, under present circumstances, become a great consumer of silver.

The conditions of the last few years which have made China an absolute exporter of silver are doubtless abnormal. Under ordinary circumstances, China ought to be an importer, but, of course, she cannot get silver unless she gives value for it in some form or other. Her power of absorbing silver is measured by the difference between the value of her exports and imports, and unless the former outvalue the latter, there is nothing left for her to receive. I see no reason to suppose that China will, until things are greatly altered, take the place of India as an absorber of silver.

But the undeveloped capacities of the country are enormous, and if the Government would only allow merchants a free hand in the matter of railways and manufactures, the trade of China might soon outrival that of India. There is probably no country in the world where capital is so much wanted, and where it could be used with greater benefit both to the borrower and the lender.

The amount of silver in the country is, I believe, surprisingly small. Here in Shanghai, which is the commercial metropolis, the stock at any given time, whether in Foreign or Native hands, seldom exceeds 3,000,000 taels, and is often much less.

At Soochow and Hangchow, and other large inland centres, the estimate is usually much less than that, and in the country at large, and even in populous towns and villages, silver is rarely seen at all. Interest is high—running from 5 per cent. to 12 per cent.—and that not on account of insecurity, but because the borrower can use the capital to such advantage as to make it worth his while to pay it.

General Conclusions.

Viewing the situation from the Chinaman's point of view, he finds that his tael or ounce of silver is just as valuable to him as it ever was. He can buy the same amount of all the ordinary necessaries of life for the same money as formerly, and of Foreign articles he can buy a great deal more. If he has things to sell to the Foreigner, he can usually get rather a better price than he used to get, and he finds the Foreigner mostly ready to buy, always excepting tea. His wages, rent, and taxes have remained unaltered, as has also the price of land. He can get the same interest on his spare capital if he has any.

The only thing greatly changed is the price which Foreigners are willing to pay for gold, and their strong desire to get it. Formerly the price of gold was 15 to 16 ounces weight of silver for one of gold, and there was not much demand for it. Now there is a universal desire to get it and send it out of the country at prices which have gradually risen from 16 taels to 18, 20, 24, and even 30 taels for 1 tael's weight of gold.

Reverting to the questions which I proposed to myself at the outset of this paper, the conclusions may be thus summarised :—

1. China has not been within the memory of the present generation, a great absorber of silver. From 1870 to 1880 she did take off about 3,000,000*l.* per annum, but since 1880 this process has ceased, and there has even been of late years a slight export.

2. (*a*) The fall in the gold price of silver appears to have produced no effect on the general level of prices of articles produced and consumed in China.

(*b*) As regards articles produced in China and commonly exported to gold-using countries there is a slight tendency to a general rise. This will probably be enhanced in the near future.

3. The fall in the price of silver has stimulated exports by making it possible for Foreign merchants to purchase and export at a profit a large variety of miscellaneous articles which formerly would have yielded no return at all. The value of such miscellaneous articles has quadrupled within the last ten years. Tea has declined very largely both in volume and price, but for this there are special reasons. Raw silk of best quality has increased somewhat in volume, but not in price. There has been a great increase in the quantity of waste and refuse silk exported, but the price has somewhat declined.

A continued growth in the exports of China is to be expected, but under present conditions it cannot attain to great dimensions. As the capability of China to absorb silver depends upon the excess of her exports over her imports, there is no reason to expect that China will, within the next few years at all events, take large quantities silver off the European market.

ANNEX A.—TABLE showing Fluctuations in Prices of Commodities Entering into the Internal Trade of China during the Years 1870-92.

ARTICLES.	Average Values for Years 1870—74	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.
Cotton, raw.....Picul ...	10·23	10·20	9·01	9·10	10·10	9·95	9·95	9·95	10·75	10·93
Nankeens ..... ,, ...	3·20	4·20	4 20	4·50	4·49	4·51	3·50	3·50	4·00	3 60
Fish, dried ..... ,, ...	5·31	6·50	6·47	7·00	7·50	7 20	7·20	7·20	7·50	6·50
Lily flowers ..... ,, ...	6·66	6·50	6·50	7·00	7·50	7·50	6·00	6·00	7·00	6·00
Rice ..... ,, ...	1·22	1·26	1·25	1·40	1·47	1·46	1·20	1·20	1·20	1·20
Wheat ..... ,, ...	1·10	1·15	1·75	1·10	1·18	1·18	1·18	1·18	1·20	1·15
Vermicelli ..... ,, ...	3·06	5·00	5·00	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00	6·00	6·00	4·50
Beancake..... ..... ,, ...	0·67	0·67	0·73	0·90	0·78	0·76	0·67	0·64	0·68	0·69
Wood oil ..... ,, ...	5·98	5 60	6·17	6·30	5·86	6·27	6·19	6·53	6·53	6·63
Hemp ..... ,, ...	6·82	7·48	9·18	9·00	8·95	8·43	8·52	2·60	9 31	9 04
Paper, 2nd quality ... ,, ...	4·62	4·10	4·92	5·00	5·12	4·86	4·55	5·78	4·85	5·25
Tobacco. leaf ..... ,, ...	6·65	5·88	6·24	5·98	6 62	7·20	6·61	5·66	6·06	5·64
Tallow, vegetable ..... ,, ...	8·52	6·67	7·20	8·10	9·54	8·82	7·21	7·29	7·35	7·47
Wax, white.....1/10 picul.	5·52	4·60	4·70	4·49	4·60	4 90	5·37	5·60	5·40	4·37
Grass cloth..... ,,	2·10	2·26	1·97	2·86	2·86	3·10	3·10	2·84	2·67	2·59
Sugar, brown.....Picul ...	2·33	2·47	2·08	2·60	2·94	3·25	3·12	2·98	3·11	2·98
Flour, potato ..... ,, ...	1·76	1·11	1·19	1·25	1·11	1·25	1·40	1·41	1·40	1·35
Oranges, fresh ..... ,, ...	1·36	1·01	0·94	1·18	0·83	0·76	0·79	0·77	0·84	0·80
Samshu (Native spirit) ,, ...	3·47	4·00	8·00	4·00	5·00	4·75	6·06	4·07	3·62	4·00
Glue, cow .....1/10 picul.	0·98	1·65	1·36	1·33	1·22	1·07	0·88	0 85	0 83	0·85
Total.....	81·56	82·31	95·96	88·59	92·67	93·22	89·49	82·05	90·30	85·54

ARTICLES.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	H.Tls	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk Tls.
Cotton, raw.....Picul	11·35	11·50	10·84	10·00	11·00	10·00	10·00	10 80	10·00
Nankeens ..... ,, ...	4·00	4·00	3·94	4·00	4·00	4·00	4·00	4·00	4·00
Fish, dried ..... ,, ...	7·84	7·11	6·65	6·24	6·50	6·42	2·80	4·76	5·00
Lily flowers ..... ,, ...	6·50	5·40	5·00	5·40	5·40	5·40	5 40	4·60	4·50
Rice ..... ,, ...	1·20	1·60	1·80	1 30	1·40	1·40	1·30	1·80	1·50
Wheat ..... ,, ...	1·20	1·20	1·50	1·20	1·20	1·20	1·20	1·45	1·30
Vermicelli ..... ,, ...	5·02	5·00	4·00	4·85	4·85	4·85	4·85	4·10	4·10
Beancake..... ,, ...	0 72	0·63	0·81	0·80	0·80	0·89	0·81	0·74	0·76
Wood oil ..... ,, ...	6·30	7·04	6·85	5·62	4 96	4·10	4·83	5·42	5·50
Hemp ..... ,, ...	8·09	7·54	7·63	6·58	6·21	6·70	5·76	5·39	5 80
Paper, 2nd quality ... ,, ...	5·00	5·87	5·70	5·45	4·66	3·17	3 15	2.63	3·00
Tobacco, leaf ..... ,, ...	5 01	7 18	6·26	5·12	5·01	5·86	4·83	5·94	5·90
Tallow, vegetable ..... ,, ...	6·62	5·86	5·90	5·92	4 96	6·72	6·54	6·19	6 20
Wax, white.....1/10 picul.....	5·09	4 98	4·85	4·55	4·82	3·32	3·37	3·26	4·30
Glass cloth ..... ,, ...	3·16	3·38	2·20	2 28	2·55	2·52	2·50	2·70	2·50
Sugar, brown .....Picul	2·18	2·40	2·48	2·42	2 40	2·38	2 36	2·36	2·38
Flour, potato... ..... ,, ...	1·35	1·36	1·30	1·76	1·76	1·77	1 80	1·78	1·78
Oranges, fresh ..... ,, ...	0·73	0·79	0·89	0·91	0·91	1·14	0·87	0·88	0 90
Samshu (Native spirit) ,, ...	5·44	5·98	4·00	4·68	3·02	4·70	5·18	4·74	3·64
Glue, cow .....1/10 picul.....	0·81	0·86	0·87	0·91	0·94	1·07	0·92	1·09	1·21
Total.....	87·61	89·73	83·47	79·90	77·35	77·61	72·47	74·63	74·27

ANNEX B.—TABLE showing Fluctuations in Prices of Commodities Produced in China and Exported to Foreign Countries during the Years 1870-92.

Articles.		Average Value for Years 1870-74.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
		Hk Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk Tls.	Hk.Tls	Hk.Tls.
Silk, raw, No. 4, Tsatlee	1/10 picul	39·60	3·15	31·60	35·10	34·80	36·00	31 50	37·80	35·10	36·90
Silk, wild	¼ „	34·30	54·00	59·20	60·28	48·92	43·41	47·04	48 90	42 15	43·87
„ cocoons	Picul	70 20	78 48	78 76	8·38	58·81	64 85	52 26	65·59	53·94	68 70
„ refuse	„	50·83	40·50	47 80	35·30	36·30	44·40	50 23	57·34	47 36	56·33
„ piece goods	1/10 picul	47·50	62·20	67 80	68 60	60 60	65·00	64·60	64·18	57·55	52 04
Tea, black*	Picul	23·· 3	20 67	21·31	17 49	17·88	18·07	17·64	16 01	16·05	17 01
„ green	„	32 36	23 61	24.47	21·96	19 80	23 52	22·25	21·45	22·87	20·42
„ brick	„	8·76	11·48	11·82	11·90	6 97	5 05	9·11	5 93	5·95	6·86
Cassia lignea	„	8·02	5 09	5·25	5·91	4·· 6	5 73	5·82	5·23	4·67	3·88
Peas and beans	„	0 90	0·87	1·06	1 15	0·90	0 93	0·82	0·81	0·87	0·86
Hides, cow	„	7 91	8·80	7·76	7·90	7·89	9·17	12·00	11·78	11·70	11 27
Nutgalls	„	6 05	6 13	7·21	7·15	7·24	7·21	9·76	10·00	9·90	9·15
Camphor	„	6·60	5·30	5·80	6·00	6·06	6·51	8.17	8 54	8·22	8·65
Rhubarb	¼ picul	9·11	10·70	10·20	9.74	10 25	9.57	8·63	9·02	6·70	7 03
Chinaware	Picul	4·00	6 90	3·74	3·62	4·31	3·76	5·05	4·93	4·79	3·71
Strawbraid	„	18·72	21·80	20·00	23·90	22·00	24·07	25·07	27·00	27·00	25 02
Wool	„	6·17	6·21	5.51	7 21	7·00	6·56	6·58	6·49	8·75	8·12
Total value in silver		375·06	392·89	410·29	411·89	354 89	373 31	376 53	401·00	358·57	379·82
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Equivalent in gold at varying exchange		121 19 0	121 3 0	122 5 0	123 9 0	105 11 0	105 0 0	109 0 0	111 2 0	102 7 0	106 9 0
Sight rate of exchange on London per Hk.Taels.		0 6 6	0 6 2	0 5 11½	0 6 0	0 5 11½	0 5 7½	0 5 9½	0 5 6½	0 5 8½	0 5 7½

Article		1884. Hk.Tls.	1885. Hk.Tls.	1886. Hk.Tls.	1887. Hk.Tls.	1888 Hk.Tls.	1889. Hk.Tls.	1890. Hk.Tls.	1891. Hk.Tls.	1892. Hk.Tls.
Silk, raw, No. 4, Tsatlee	1/10 picul	31·05	30·15	33·10	34·75	34·20	37 40	35·00	33·52	38·20
Silk, wild	¼ „	45·81	45·98	51·37	45·01	51·83	54 73	50·86	44·40	45·00
„ cocoons	Picul	45.42	45 ·0	65·05	56 39	56·57	55 90	74·00	58 37	64·90
„ refuse	„	49·40	52·60	45·50	5·· 30	59 35	51·50	56 60	53·77	46·58
„ piece goods	1/10 picul	50·30	44·30	62 45	53·32	53·57	53·86	51·80	52·70	52·60
Tea, black*	Picul	14·80	16·89	16 74	15 13	15·39	16 3·	17·80	20·75	18 98
„ green	„	21·75	19·41	18·· 1	16·49	19.52	19 10	18·60	17 15	18·70
„ brick	„	6·· 5	5 40	6 14	6 98	5·95	7·18	7 20	7 08	7 16
Cassia lignea	„	3·36	2·85	3·13	4·74	4 76	4·61	5 71	5·80	6·48
Peas and beans	„	0 89	0·90	1·02	0 90	1·06	1·26	1·26	1 18	1·04
Hides, cow	„	11·45	12·63	12·77	11·95	9·87	9·88	8 19	7·81	8·20
Nutgalls	„	9·49	9·40	9·86	9·98	9·95	10·04	10·05	9 33	11·90
Camphor	„	7·86	9·35	11·25	9·07	8·64	8 90	15·00	15·08	17 30
Rhubar	¼ picul	9·98	9·98	9·85	9 99	9·84	8·56	9·96	9·00	7·91
Chinaware	Picul	2·77	3·05	2·95	4·84	2 58	2·38	2·63	3·32	4·00
Strawbraid	„	25·00	24 50	25·30	24·75	24·90	23·00	25·00	20 27	23·56
Wool	„	7 74	7·63	9 39	8·18	8·00	9 14	8 66	8·22	8 90
Total trade in silver		343·12	339·52	387·28	366 73	375·96	373·68	398 32	367·73	381 21
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Equivalent in gold at varying exchange		95 15 0	89 17 0	96 16 0	88 12 0	88 2 0	88 6 0	103 6 0	90 8 0	82 12 0
Sight rate of exchange on London per Hk.Taels.		0 5 7	0 5 3½	0 5 0	0 4 10	0 4 8½	0 4 8½	0 5 2½	0 4 11	0 4 4

* The prices here given are the average of all grades of tea as extracted from Customs statistics. If attention were confined to common Congou, prices would show a much greater depreciation.

ANNEX C.—TABLE showing Fluctuations in Prices of Commodities of Foreign Origin Imported for Chinese Consumption during the Years 1870-92.

Articles.	Average Value for Years 1870--74.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Grey shirtings (38½ yds. by 39 ins., 7 lbs. avoir.) ..... Piece	Hk.Tls. 1·48	Hk Tls. 1·31	Hk.Tls. 1·28	Hk.Tls. 1·12	Hk.Tls. 1·19	Hk.Tls. 1·16	Hk.Tls. 1·15	Hk.T s. 1·23	Hk.Tls. 1·17	Hk Tls. 1·10
Drills, Eng ish (40 yds. by 30 ins., 14 lbs. to 15 lbs.) ..... ,,	2·50	2·16	1·98	1·75	1·71	1·80	1 95	1 9)	1·80	1·76
T-cloths (medium, 7 lbs.) ,,	1·36	1·30	1·26	1·17	1·11	1·18	1·14	1·10	1·09	1·08
Drills, American (40 yds. by 30 ins.) .... ,,	3·26	3·01	2 70	2·54	2·48	2 49	2·61	2·70	2·70	2·84
Cotton yarn, English .. 1/100 piece	2 85	2·80	3·00	2 80	2·33	2·40	2·50	2 55	2·56	2·47
Lastings (30 yds. by 31 ins.) ..... Piece	9 62	10 97	9·36	9·18	8·74	8·15	8·20	8 22	5·52	6·48
Iron, nail rod (Dawes' best) ..... ,,	2·82	2·66	2·34	2·21	1 84	1 87	2 04	1·80	1 96	1·95
Lead, L.B., English .. ,,	4 66	5·49	6·10	5·18	4·25	4·40	4·17	3·90	3 67	3·37
Tin-plates ..... ,,	5·18	5 50	4 23	4 19	3·60	4·50	4 65	3 60	3·45	3 78
Copper slabs, Japan .. ,,	4 16	4·17	4·50	4·18	3 56	3 53	3·93	3 76	3 90	3·94
Window-glass ..... Box	2·40	2·21	2 35	2· 2	1·90	2· 1	2·21	2 11	2·36	2·40
Kerosene oil (Devoe's .. Case	2 80	1 75	1·60	1 60	1 56	1·45	1·29	1 35	1·24	1 20
Total	43·09	43·33	40·70	38·04	34·27	34·94	35·84	34 22	31·42	31 87

Articles.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.	Hk.Tls.
Grey shirtings (38½ yds. by 39 ins., 7 lbs. avoir.) ..... Piece	1·09	1·11	1·06	1·10	1·16	1·13	1·02	0·98	1·01
Drills, Engli h (40 yds. by 30 ins., 14 lbs. to 15 lbs.) ..... ,,	1·86	1·95	1·83	1·81	1·95	1·92	1·88	1·80	1·86
T-cloths (m dium, 7 lbs) ..... ,,	1·07	1·05	1 07	1·16	1·05	1 19	1·05	1·04	1 01
Drills, American (40 yds. b 30 ins.) ..... ,,	2 21	2·25	2·25	2 34	2·43	2 38	2·43	2·43	2·26
Cotton yarn, English ..... 1/100 piece	2 30	2·20	2·20	2·40	2·30	2·20	2·00	2·07	2·00
Lastings (30 yds. by 31 ins.) .... Piece	6·45	6·75	6 30	7·14	6·30	6 97	6·30	6·45	6 50
Iron, nail rod (Da es' best) .... ,,	1·92	1·89	1·84	1·77	2·02	2·18	2·16	1·98	2·00
Lead, L B., English ..... ,,	3 00	3·43	3·84	3·84	4 46	4·08	3·72	3·55	3·46
Tin-plates ..... ,,	3.97	3 51	3·60	3 43	3·61	3·75	3 70	3·10	3·33
Copper slabs, Japan ..... ,,	3.73	3·00	2 82	2·79	4·15	3 40	3·34	3·40	3·40
Window-glass ..... Box	2·25	2·46	2·12	2·08	2·16	2 25	2·11	2·08	2·10
Kerosene oil (Devoe's) ..... Case	1·26	1·21	1·07	1·14	1·35	1·42	1·24	1·09	1·03
Total	31·11	30·86	30 00	31·00	32·94	32·87	3 ·99	29·97	29·96

Acknowledge Rule

No 1768.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JAN 24 1894

Legation of the United States.
Peking, December 15th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 24 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —
— Subject —
Acknowledging despatches.

No. 1768.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 15th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the following despatches from the Department, viz:-

No 834 dated October 27th, 1893

No 835 - " —— " — 30th - " —

No 836 - " —— " — 31st - " —

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Clip

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Allow $500 as asked
add

14 Feb

FEB 12 1894

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
FEB 13 1894

No 1769.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 20th 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 2 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Furniture for new offices

Synopsis

Mr. Denby asks that the further sum of $500 be allowed.

No 1769.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 20th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, by virtue of authority asked for by me and granted by you (see my despatch No 1701, of the 3rd of July, and your answer No 824, of the 21st of August last), I have bought at Shanghai, for the use of the legation offices, the

following

following furniture:

12 office chairs

5 book-cases

4 tables

4 revolving book stands

4 coal boxes

19 cornice poles

1 hat stand

2 hall chairs,

matting for hall floors, stair rods and eyes.

The sum of $700 was allowed by you for the furnishing of the offices. The bills, including packing, freight, insurance and coastwise duty, exceeded the estimates. Freights were increased by the breaking of the banks of the Peiho, so

that

that the goods had to be hauled overland, and the payment of coastwise duty was not anticipated.

I have spent $1135.85 Mex or $745.31 Gold. I have also bought two stoves and some curtains and have still to buy more curtains and some carpets. I have, therefore, to ask that the further sum of $500 be allowed me for furniture. In doing so, I beg to state that, during the past eight years and three months, there has only been allowed for furniture for this legation the sum of $1200, or about $150 per annum.

a

A detailed account will be rendered when the transaction is concluded.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAR 17 1894

COPIED. FOREIGN RELATONS.

No 1770.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 20th, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 13 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Proposed regulations for bearers of passports

Synopsis

Encloses copy of reply of the Yamên to the despatch of the diplomatic body.

One enclosure.

No 1770.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 20th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1764, of the 6th instant, I enclosed a copy of a despatch sent by me, as dean of the diplomatic body, to the Tsungli Yamên, relating to the request of the Yamên that foreigners traveling in China should be required to report to the local authorities found en route their arrival

and

and intended movements.

I have now the honor to enclose a translation of the Yamên's answer to that despatch. The diplomatic body has not taken any action, as yet, on this paper.

1/1770.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby No: 26, December 15th 1893.

1

Enclosure in No 1770.

Copy of translation

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby.

No 26. December 15th 1893.

Your Excellency:

Upon the 5th of December, the prince and ministers had the honor to receive a communication from the minister of the United States, acknowledging receipt of the Yamên's communication (of the 10th November last), setting forth a despatch from the governor general of Fukuang to the Yamên and a report from the taotai of Ching Chow, Hsiang and Shihnan to the governor general, to the effect that foreigners traveling in China should be required, when applying for passports, either at Peking or in the provinces, to report in person to the local officials en route their arrival

as

as well as their intended movements, wherein the minister of the United States was requested to communicate with his colleagues, consider the question presented and try to adopt, as quickly as possible, a feasible plan of action and inform the prince and ministers thereof.

The minister of the United States stated that he had transmitted to his colleagues the original and an English translation of the Yamen's communication; that two meetings had been held by the foreign representatives to consider its contents, but, while they appreciate the honorable and praiseworthy motives that produced the paper, they find themselves unable to assent to the proposition that all foreigners, when traveling in China under passport, should report in person to the local officials, for to do

so

so would be impracticable, and, for failure to comply with it, the forfeiture of protection is by no means admissible; that a more serious objection and one which, to the minds of the foreign representatives is insuperable, is that the proposed rule would materially change the purport of the treaties and that it is not in the power of the foreign representatives to add to or take from a treaty any material point, and that the request cannot, therefore, be complied with.

The prince and ministers would observe in reply that this question does not in any way involve the alteration of treaty stipulations, but it is one clearly provided for by treaty— which is to the effect that foreigners are allowed to travel to all parts of the interior under passports. "The passports,

"if demanded, must be produced
"for examination in the localities
"passed through. If the passport
"be not irregular the bearer will
"be allowed to proceed."

The examination of passports as provided by treaty is the same as reporting in person to the authorities. If foreigners will comply with the treaties and, on their arrival at any place in the interior, will present their passports for examination, the local authorities will be in a position to afford them timely protection and trouble may be avoided. Could such a course be regarded as impracticable?

It would seem that the foreign representatives have misunderstood the purpose and meaning of the Yamên. It is stated in the communication of the minister of the United States that "it is questionable

whether

"whether the proposed rule would
"accomplish any good purpose"
also that "the presence of foreigners
"in any locality in the interior
"is immediately known to all
"the population - the officials
"included."

The Yamën is of the opinion
that this is not the case,
as the departments and
districts of China embrace a
large area of territory, the small
covering about one hundred
or more li and the large over
several hundred li in extent,
and when foreigners are traveling -
no matter in what place - if they
fail to present their passports
for examination, how can the
local officials know of their
presence within their jurisdictions?
And not knowing this how
can they follow their movements
and, in case of need, render
them necessary protection?

Further

Further, it will be found that the populace of the places through which foreigners may pass consist of both good and bad, and, if there should be a dispute between them and the Chinese, how could the local authorities be in a position to take measures to guard against trouble arising therefrom. In such an event, to blame the officers of the departments and districts for failing to give full and adequate protection would be inconsiderate and show a want of feeling toward them.

The request of the governor general of Hukuang, that foreign travelers should be instructed to report to the local authorities (on their arrival within their jurisdiction), as well as report their intended movements, is not against the meaning and purport of the provisions of treaty

which

which require that they should present their passports for examination to the local authorities. Besides, the responsibility would then rest on the officials of the departments and districts to see that timely protection was accorded them, in case of need. Should trouble arise, they could not then shuffle off their responsibility and say we knew nothing about foreigners traveling within our jurisdictions. This would be a cautious rule to adopt in the matter of protecting foreign travelers and have for its aim the purpose of making them exert themselves to prevent trouble. This plan should not be regarded as having for its aim no good purpose and further as being an alteration of treaty stipulations.

The prince and ministers again request the minister of the

United

United States to confer with his colleagues and consider, as soon as practicable, some feasible plan of action and to instruct foreign travelers to present their passports to the local officials for examination, to the end that they may give them timely protection, in accordance with treaty stipulations which is a matter of importance.

In sending this communication to the minister of the United States they express the hope that action will be taken as requested.

To His Excellency
Charles Denby
United States Minister
etc., etc., etc.

Dip

COPIED. FOREIGN RELATIONS.
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
FEB 18 1894

acpd 18 Feb

No. 1771.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 22nd, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 13 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Duty on furniture for legation offices.

Synopsis

Coasting duty on such furniture charged - Inspector general sustains the charge

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Two enclosures.

No 1771.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 22nd, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

China differs from most, if not all, other countries in this that it requires a coasting duty to be paid on native produce shipped from one Chinese port to another. This duty amounts to one half the export duty.

In other countries than China, it is not permitted to foreign ships

ships to engage in coastwise trade or to navigate internal rivers. As this right by treaty enures to foreign vessels, some recompense is secured by levying a coastwise duty on native goods so transported. When the goods go by land they pay lekin or transit duty.

I lately bought, at Shanghai, furniture for the new offices of this legation. I had made like purchases before and had never paid any duty. On this occasion, duty was charged by the commissioner of customs at Shanghai on the goods, which were shipped to Tientsin. The amount of the tax was

small

small but it involved the question whether, under international courtesy, a foreign government should be required to pay any duty whatever on articles purchased for the official use of its legation in China, no matter what the origin of the articles might be.

I addressed the inspector general on the subject, and received from him an answer sustaining the action of the commissioner. Copies of these papers are enclosed.

The rule in the United States has been to exempt from general taxation all property owned by a foreign

govenment

government, but not to exempt it from local assessments unless it were definitely understood that such exemptions were made in its favor in the foreign country. There being no reciprocity existing in this particular matter between the two countries, I did not think it proper to press a demand for exemption.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Denby to Sir Robert Hart.
2. Sir Robert Hart to Mr. Denby.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1771.

Mr. Denby to Sir Robert Hart.

Mis. No. 49/1893 Dec. 11th 1893.

Sir:

I beg leave to submit to you a question which has arisen on a ruling made by the commissioner of customs at Shanghai, a letter from whom is herewith enclosed.

In the month of November last, Hall and Holtz, Ltd. shipped from Shanghai to Tientsin 13 packages of teak-wood furniture, which was made by them at Shanghai for the furnishing of the public offices of this legation. On this furniture export duty amounting to kai-kuan taels 21.5 was charged and paid.

I requested Hall and Holtz to demand that the above amount be refunded, on the

ground

ground that the furniture was bought by the Government of the United States for use in its public offices at Peking.

This demand was refused, the commissioner stating that "dutiable articles of native "origin must, if exported, for "no matter what use or whose "account, pay the duty required "by regulations".

I need not cite, in this connection, the custom of international courtesy, to the effect that the privilege of importing or exporting articles intended for the personal use of a diplomatic agent, is freely conceded in China. There must be something in the rules cited, particularly applicable to coastwise duties, with which I am not familiar. Here again observation, and my own many times repeated

personal

personal experience, have induced me to believe that articles bought by foreigners for their own personal use in China, when shipped from Shanghai, or any other port in China, to Tientsin, pay no duties whatever. Very many of such goods were of "native origin", and that circumstance has never, to my knowledge, been taken into consideration.

Whatever the facts may be as to the payment of coastwise duties by private citizens or diplomatic agents, I submit that a foreign government should not be held to pay duty on furniture bought at Shanghai, and intended to be used and actually used in its public offices at Peking. The furnishing of such offices at Peking is designed as an accommodation to all Chinese officials and persons,

as

as well as foreigners, who may have business with the legation, and is largely availed of.

International courtesy demands exemption from payment of such taxes, and I am sure that no government in the world requires them to be paid by any foreign power. I, therefore, request that you will direct that the sum paid, as above set forth, be refunded to me.

I have etc.,

(Sig'd) Charles Denby.

Mis-54/1893. Enclosure 2 in No 1771.

No 2011
General

Inspectorate General of Customs.
Peking 12 December 1893.

Sir:

1. I beg to acknowledge Your Excellency's despatch concerning the refusal of the Shanghai Customs to exempt from duty certain Shanghai made furniture shipped there for the use of the United States' Legation at Peking.

2. The Chinese Customs not only follow the habits of international comity in exempting from all duty charges things entered from abroad for the use of foreign legations, but up to the present have even gone further — no limit has so far been placed in respect of

To His Excellency either
Colonel Denby
etc. etc. etc.
U.S. Legation, Peking.

either time or quantity on things thus entered: over and above this the Chinese Customs do what other Customs do not do — they allow legations to send away from China free of duty whatever things are certified to be for the personal use of members of the legations and not for sale. So that in both respects, whether as regards arrivals from abroad or departures from China, the practice so far in China is to act with a liberality unknown in other parts of the world and to grant privileges which cannot be claimed and would not be granted elsewhere.

3. The incident Your Excellency especially refers to comes, however, under quite another category: there is no question of course as to the destination of the things concerned — they

3.

are

are for the legation, but their
provenance is different —
they are from China and not
from abroad, and, bought in
the country itself, their
legation destination does not
entitle them to any privileges
whatever, and therefore the
practice in China is to levy
duty in the ordinary way on
whatever articles are found
in motion if they pass specific
stations e.g. leave one treaty
port to go to another, and
without reference to their
ultimate use. This point came
up for discussion more than
once several years back, and
under precisely similar
circumstances: and it was the
Spanish legation which then
paid duty on the articles
shipped for its use at Peking
by the same firm, Hall & Holtz,
at Shanghai, and the French

on

on things from Ningpo. Under similar circumstances, would a Chinese representative be exempted in all treaty power countries? The Doyen's papers will probably show that an answer in the negative was once made to this query. The action of the Shanghai Customs must accordingly be upheld.

I have etc.,

(S'g'd) Robert Hart,
Inspector General of Customs.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 27th 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 13 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Salary accounts.

Two enclosures.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 27th 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, my accounts for salary and gain by exchange for twenty-five days of this quarter, viz. from Oct. 1st to Oct. 25th inclusive, being for my salary up to the date of my oath of office as first secretary of this legation.

T. II

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Secretary of Legation

Enclosures:

Accounts

Dip

File

No 1772.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 26, 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 18 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
FEB 30 1894

Subject

Decennial reports of Chinese trade

Synopsis

A copy thereof forwarded with comments thereon.

No 1772.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 26th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I send to you under separate cover the Decennial Reports on the Trade, Navigation, Industries etc. of the Ports Open to Foreign Commerce in China and Corea etc., 1882-91, published by order of the inspector general of customs.

The history of a decade is contained in this volume.

As

singlets, towels, handkerchiefs, matches, soap, sulphuric acid, umbrellas, camphor, dye stuffs, fans, copper and copperware, fishery products paper, porcelain, medicines, planks, and boards of cheap, soft timber, and other things.

The Indian cotton trade, and its increase, is a leading feature of the last few years trade. It increased from one million taels worth in 1885 to ten million taels worth in 1891.

Kerosene oil rose from nine million gallons in 1882 to thirty-five million gallons in 1891. Russian oil appeared

first

first in 1889 in noticeable quantities. Since then about one third has been Russian and the balance American. Tank steamers from Russia are being introduced. This new method saves thirty per cent to consumers. A small quantity of kerosene came from Peru in 1891.

The tea trade has fallen off. It fell from pikuls 2.097.118, in 1880, to pikuls 1.750.034, in 1891. Improvement in quality is enjoined but reduction in duties is not recommended.

Silk filatures have made waste silk available.

The

The letting of contracts by the government for arms, munitions and material is condemned as involving corruption and injury to commerce.

In Shanghai, business was formerly done by wealthy firms; now it is done mostly on commission.

Complaints are made that the silk now put on the market is not up to the quality of former years. In straw braid, also, there is a tendency to slovenly production.

In the carrying trade, the British flag has forty seven per cent of the entire foreign

tonnage

tonnage.

The Chinese coast carrying trade has not prospered as was expected.

Revenues have increased. The export duty shows an increased export trade.

The importation of Indian opium has declined about sixteen per cent.

The haikwan tael, during 1882, was worth 5 s 8½ d; in 1888, the value was 4 s 8 3/8 d. In 1890, after the passage of the Sherman Act, the tael went up, but, in 1891, fell to 4 s 8½ d. Since then it has been almost continually declining. A tael of silver, it is thought, buys as

as much produce now as when it had more value.

The tendency of foreign trade has been to raise the standard of Chinese comfort by not only placing foreign products on the market at a low price, but also by reducing the price of Chinese articles. I have, heretofore, given my own opinion that native produce is gradually rising in price.

In the year 1891, the exports exceeded the imports by taels 25.598.197.

The foreign population of Shanghai, in the English and American settlements — north of the Yangkingpang creek —

was

was, in 1890, 3.821 resident foreigners against 2.197 in 1880. The native population was, in 1880, 107.812 and, in 1890, 168.129. The health of the settlement has improved.

There are electric lighting and water works.

The Woosung bar has not materially changed in ten years. I may mention, in this connection, that Sir Charles Hartley, a distinguished English engineer, has been engaged by the municipal council and the Chinese authorities to examine and report on the possible improvement of the bar.

The

The bonding system is little used by the public.

The Shanghai arsenal has been growing in extent.

Among the principal industrial businesses at Shanghai are the Chinese Cotton Cloth Mill Co., the Chinese Spinning Co., the Shanghai Paper Mill Co., two ginning companies and one cotton cleaning company.

Stem wheel passenger boats running to Soochow are propelled by men.

The future of Shanghai is pronounced to be prosperous. It is supposed that the city will be the terminus of the Chinese railway system.

The

The commissioner concludes with the statement that "the future of Shanghai "depends on China and the "Chinese and their interests "and foreigners would be "wise to run with them".

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Bureau of Statistics, FOR PUBLICATION

ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Mr. Renick may print
Ack by subject & file
FEB 13 1894

COPIED FOR DIPLOMATIC BUREAU FEB 13 1894 TO CONGRESS.

No. 1773.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 28th 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE. FEB 13 1894 RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The new port of Mengtsz

Synopsis

Description of Mengtsz and the province of Yunnan.

No. 1773.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 28th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I take from the decennial customs reports some facts relating to the new treaty port Mengtsz.

This port was opened to trade under Art. III of the Convention Additionelle between France and China, signed the 26th June 1887. The customs staff arrived at Mengtsz the

15th

15th July 1889, after a journey of one hundred and three days from Canton, of which time more than one fourth was spent at Po-sê, waiting for transportation coolies.

Mengtsz is situated in Yunnan forty miles from the Red River, on whose left bank there is a port of entry called Manhao. The problem of navigating the Red River by steam has not been solved. The river has proved to be too shallow for navigating by steamboats. Steam launches to tow native craft are now to be used. Piracy has made the Red River route precarious.

A revolt of the Black Flags force occurred in 1890. The leader, Wei Ming Kao, crossed over into Tonkin and was captured and died in confinement.

There are good telegraph facilities.

The province is slowly recovering from the scourge of the civil war. The imports and exports have increased from 1-104-007 in 1890 to 1-530-007 in 1891.

The importation of opium is prohibited by treaty. The poppy is grown throughout the province. Very little opium is exported.

The

The rate of exchange for copper cash has continually gone down. In August 1889, a tael was worth 1509 cash, while, in December 1891, it was worth 1707. The cost of provisions has gone up.

The curse of the province of Yunnan is the bubonic fever. Mystery surrounds its origin. It is epidemic in summer. Its first victims are rats, which rush madly into the presence of human beings and, after capering around, fall dead. Domestic animals suffer next. With human beings, the symptoms are high fever accompanied by excessive

thirst

thirst and violent deliriousness ending, usually, in loss of consciousness. In a few hours, an enlargement of a gland takes place in the form of a small, hard lump, and the patient generally dies at the end of the second or early on the third day. Musk is one of the specifics used in its treatment, and sometimes the bubo is excised.

The course of the epidemic is erratic. Whole neighborhoods will be passed over, to be visited later or to escape altogether. In 1891, two houses just opposite the magistrate's yamen, within which the

customs

customs people live, and containing about fifty inmates, lost eighteen persons and there was only one other death in that street, though dead rats were found on the floors of the customs quarters. In three months the mortality in Mengtsz, having 15.000 population, was 1000.

The population of Yunnan is variously estimated at from 4.000.000 to 11.000-000. The Chinese constitute one third of the population. Sixty per cent of the males cannot read. Among the aborigines only a few can read.

The province is mountainous. Excepting

Excepting a short section of the Red River and of the Yang, the streams are not navigable.

The staple products for food are bamboo shoots, barley, beans, buckwheat, ground nuts, maize, millet, oats, peas, potatoes, rice, sugar cane, tea and wheat. The fruits are apples, apricots, oranges, peaches, pears, persimmons, plums, pomegranates. Among animal products, there are beeswax, lams, hides, honey, horns, musk, skins and white wax. Among sundries are cotton, flax, fungus, hemp, opium, rhubarb, tobacco.

There

There are few manufactures. They include cotton cloth, felt rugs, ironware, brassware and silver jewelry.

Mining is the chief resource. The known products of the mines are amber, cinnabar, coal, copper, gold, iron, lead, marble orpiment, salt, silver, tin and zinc, also some jade and other precious stones. The rebellion crippled the mines and they have not yet recovered. Iron comes first and copper second in importance. Copper for making cash is transported to Peking in large quantities. Twenty odd galena mines are enumerated.

Tin

Tin mines are found near Mengtsz which, in one year, produced 100.000 piculs. The tin is cast in slabs 42 inches long, 10 inches wide and 1½ inches thick.

There is no bank at Mengtsz but there are two at the capital. There are no postal facilities except government courier and two postal companies at the capital.

The tariff in force at Mengtsz is a special one under which goods entering China across the Tonkin frontier pay transit dues at the customs and pay no likin, and all imports not on the ad valorem list

pay

pay only 7/10 and exports only 6/10 of the regular tariff rates. By decree of the French authorities, all products, except opium, enter Tonkin free, and even opium is free if duly sealed by the Tonkin customs.

The Catholics began mission work in Yunnan 200 years ago. They have now 23 foreign priests and 10.000 converts. The protestants date from 1881 and are represented by the China Inland Mission and the Bible Christians. They have in Yunnan 12 men and 9 women and twelve baptized adherents.

There are numbers of guilds

some

some of which are charitable and religious.

It is supposed that the future of Yunnan, owing to its mines, will be prosperous.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Dip

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Referred to Bureau of Statistics
Ack. as Mr. Remick... may advise.
FEB 28 1894 aad

COPIED FOR CONGRESS

No 1774.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 29th 1893.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAR 7 1894

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Lungchow - the new treaty port in Kwangsi

Synopsis

An account of this port and of the province of Kwangsi.

7

Mr Rencik

~~Mr Cridler~~

This is interesting. Please let me take a copy for the Consular Reports.

Keep it for me

Take desk

Copy

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 1 1894

Mr Cridler:

I am so overwhelmed with copy that I shall not be able to use these interesting reports.

E. I. R.

Mar 6/94.

No 1774.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 29th, 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

By the French treaty of June 9th 1885, the Chinese Government consented to the opening of a place for trade on the Kwangsi-Tonkin frontier, and by the convention with France of 26th June 1887, Lungchow was designated as that place.

The custom house was opened on the 1st June 1889.

Mr Rearick

~~Mr Cridler~~

This is interesting. Please let me take a copy for the Consular Reports.

Keep it & return to Mr Cridler

E R

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 1 1894

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By the French treaty of June 9th 1885, the Chinese Government consented to the opening of a place for trade on the Kwangsi-Tonkin frontier, and by the convention with France of 26th June 1887, Lungchow was designated as that place.

The custom house was opened on the 1st June 1889.

I take from the decennial reports of the customs the following facts.

Lungchow is a small place pleasantly situated on the north bank of the Ho-kiang just below the function of the Sungki and Caobang rivers. The population is about 20.000. The foreign community numbers seven, all connected with the French consulate or the customs.

The railway in Tonkin is still far from completion. It is hoped that it will reach Lungchow soon.

Not much opium is produced in Kwangsi.

The

The Mexican dollar ranges from 970 down to 980 cash. The Tonkin dollar is worth between four and five per cent more than the Mexican.

The population of the province of Kwangsi was, in 1890, 7.509.000.

The principal products are rice, maize, vegetable oil, sugar, cassia, timber; aniseed and aniseed oil.

"The aniseed trees were "originally wild but are now "frequently cultivated. They "grow on hillsides where the "sloping ground prevents "water from standing around "the roots, yet retains enough

moisture

"moisture as the rain runs
"down from the higher ground
"above. The trees are very
"liable to injury from smoke
"and, as the common habit
"in clearing fields is to burn
"the grass and debris, the
"neighborhood of villages is
"avoided in selecting a place
"to plant, and the dry grass
"beneath the trees is cut and
"carried off yearly to prevent
"the spread of accidental fires.
"Young trees bear seed suitable
"for commercial purposes after
"ten years and trees one hundred
"years old still bear. The yield
"of the same tree varies much
"from year to year and trees

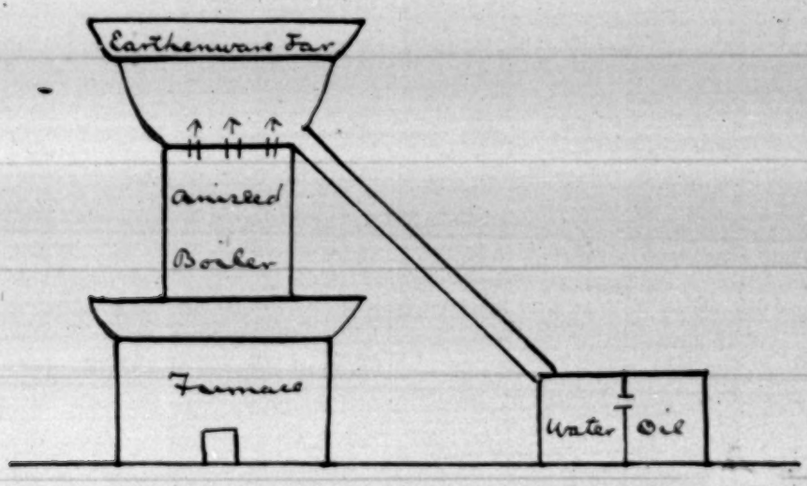
that

"that produce every year are
"rare. They flower at the
"beginning of February and the
"aniseed is gathered in August
"and September. Fresh aniseed
"is worth ordinarily $5.50 per
"picul and a picul dries down
"to 20 or 25 catties.

"The oil is extracted from
"fresh aniseed by distillation.
"Steam passes through a wooden
"cylinder containing the aniseed
"placed over the boiler into an
"earthenware jar where it is
"condensed by cold water
"placed in a pan on top. The
"condensed mixture of water
"and oil flows through a
"pipe into a tin-lined box of

two

"two compartments, in the
"partition between which is a
"hole near the top. The oil
"floating on the top of the water
"is drawn off through this hole
"into the other compartment.
"The process takes several days.



"A picul of fresh aniseed
"yields 3 catties of oil and a
"picul of oil is worth from $180
"to $190. It is transported in
"tins of 32 to 35 catties weight".

An effort is being made
in Kwangsi to revive the culture

%

of silk.

There are gold, silver, copper, iron and coal mines in the province but they are little worked.

Wu-chow, with forty to fifty thousand inhabitants, is the most important place; Nan-ning is the second and Lui-chow the third. The West River and its feeders are the natural trade routes. Trade follows the water when possible. The West River is not navigable above Wu-chow for steamers.

The construction of the telegraph line was begun in 1886. It now connects the

principal

principal cities.

The only missionaries in Kwangsi are the eight or ten members of the Mission Étrangères de Paris.

Guilds exist in the province as elsewhere in China.

Indications of the the future of Lungchow and Kwangsi are not very clear. Trade will, no doubt, take the route of the Tonkin railway when it is finished. The people are so very poor that they get by hard work little more than enough to feed and clothe themselves. There is little to spend except on necessaries.

Two things are desirable:

1º To encourage mining.
2º To facilitate trade by lightening taxes.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Dip

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack as crossed by Instr. no. 852 of Dec. 27. 1893.
MAR 6 1894
aab

Vand Sman

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 7 1894

No 1775.

COPIED FOR CONGRESS

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

Peking, December 30th 1893.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Regulations for bearers of passports

Synopsis

Reply to yamên on the subject of travelers reporting en route to local authorities.

One enclosure.

No 1775.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 30th 1893.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1770, of the 20th December, I forwarded a translation of a despatch from the Tsungli Yamên, relating to reports proposed to be made by foreigners traveling in China. I have the honor to enclose

1/1775

a copy of my reply, as dean, thereto.

It will be seen that the

foreign

foreign representatives still refuse to consent to the Yamên's proposition. Owing to trouble still likely to grow out of the recent murder of the two Swedes at Sungpu, this is an unfortunate time to present a proposition to restrict or obstruct foreign trade in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby.

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên

No 29/1893, Dec. 30th 1893.

Enclosure in No 1775.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên.

No 29. December 30-1893.

The minister of the United States has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the communication of the prince and ministers of the 15th instant, wherein they set forth the contents of his despatch to them of the 5th instant, in answer to their first communication in which they requested that foreigners traveling in China with passports, whether issued at Peking or in the provinces, should be required to report in person to the local officials en route their arrival as well as their intended movements. The prince and ministers then proceed to say that 'this question "does not in any way mean "the alteration of treaty stipulations

but

"but it is one clearly provided
"for by treaty, which is to
"the effect that foreigners are
"allowed to travel to all parts
"of the interior of China under
"passports. These passports, if
"demanded, must be produced
"for examination in the localities
"passed through <<<<<. The
"examination of passports, as
"provided for by treaty, is the
"same as the traveler reporting
"in person to the authorities".

The foreign representatives differ essentially from the prince and ministers on the proposition above stated. By the treaties, passports need only be shown when an examination thereof is properly demanded. Under the construction above set out travelers would be compelled to seek out the local authorities in every city and report to them. There would

be

be considerable inconvenience and delay in the process. It is not always easy to gain access to a governor or prefect or taotai. These officials, on the other hand, can always approach foreigners. It often happens that foreigners traveling in the interior put up for the night in places in the suburbs and never go into the cities and start on their journey early the next morning. Hence it would be inconvenient in such cases for them to report to the local authorities in person. It would be easy for the local authorities to know of the whereabouts of foreign travelers by instructing their subordinate officials to report to them the arrival and departure of foreigners at various places within their jurisdiction.

While

While the right of foreign governments to require passports from citizens of other countries traveling in their borders is not disputed, obstruction in the way of travelers is regarded as a proper matter of international complaint. The requiring of such continual and repeated reports in person, as is now suggested, is regarded as a serious and useless obstruction to the free travel for which the treaties with China provide. It is, also, beyond question true that to require such reports in person — while the treaties only require the exhibition of passports when demanded — would be adding new and material matter to the terms of the treaties. The foreign representatives find themselves unable to make such an addition to the plain

stipulation

stipulation of the treaties.

The prince and ministers enquire how the local authorities can know of the presence of foreigners in the interior unless they report personally to them. To this question it may be answered that when foreigners travel in the interior, their movements attract great attention and their presence is known to all the people. Under such circumstances, it is the duty of the officers of the departments and districts to see that protection is accorded to them. It is believed that no case has ever arisen in China, and that none will ever arise, wherein the officials in the interior can or could truthfully plead ignorance of the presence of foreigners in their jurisdictions. Riots take place ordinarily in cities or

large

large towns, and hostile movements of the populace are usually known to the officials before any damage is done and in time to prevent it by proper exertion. To allow officials to plead absence or want of knowledge for not performing their duty is not in accordance with Chinese law in matters affecting Chinese subjects, and such excuses should not be received in cases in which foreigners are concerned.

The foreign representatives have, for these reasons, instructed the minister of the United States to say that the proposition to require travelers to report as stated cannot be acceded to.

The minister of the United States avails himself of this occasion etc., etc.

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Copy to Mr. Grip for his information.
Ack & file.
FEB 28 1894

DIPLOMATIC
FEB 28 1894

No 1776.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 2nd, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

To Swedish Minister
Inclosed Mch 1/94

Subject

The Sungpu murders

Synopsis

An unofficial report of the settlement of the case stated.

No 1776.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 2nd, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have been advised by telegraph, by the Consul General of Sweden and Norway, that the questions growing out of the recent murder of the two Swedes at Sungpu have been settled. The details thereof have not reached me officially.

It

It is understood that two of the accused criminals were to be beheaded and $40.000 Mex. paid as indemnity. The question of other missionaries going to Sungpu was laid over for further consideration. The magistrate at Macheng was not degraded.

Two Swedish missionaries are at Peking, having four Chinese refugees from Sungpu in their custody whose return to Sungpu they desire to bring about. The missionaries claim that innocent men have been condemned and that the guilty have escaped. They say that all the missionaries will denounce

denounce the so-called settlement. They propose to address the foreign representatives on the subject.

As I have not received from Consul General Bock an official statement of the terms of the settlement, and the Swedes have not presented any written communication, I postpone, for the present, a full discussion of this subject. The question as to how far other powers can intervene in matters which Sweden and Norway seem to have the sole power to arrange, and how far the foreign representatives can intervene for the protection

of Chinese subjects who are persecuted because they assisted foreigners, will be fully presented to you.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Dispatches by mail. Regarded as not wanted. Returned and Copy Microfilmed

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 7 1894

No 1777.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Mr. Reinch can print if he wants to
Ack + file.
FEB 28 1894

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 4th, 1894.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The Kowloon Customs

Synopsis

An abstract of the commissioner's report for the decade 1882-91.

No 1777.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 4th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In pursuance of my plan to send you some observations on the recently opened ports of China, I now treat of the port of Kowloon.

This port and Lappa, near Macao, differ from all other custom houses on the coast of China and up the Yangtze in the important particular that

that it deals almost exclusively with native trade. Foreign vessels and their cargoes do not come within its sphere of action. It has cognizance only of goods carried in native craft.

The Kowloon custom house was opened in April 1887. It had its origin in the opium agreement of September 1886, signed at Hongkong. This agreement provided that an office should be established on the Kowloon side for the sale of Chinese opium duty certificates which should be freely sold to all comers and for any quantity of opium.

Four

Four revenue stations were established under this agreement, at places convenient to Hongkong. Here stations had been established twenty years ago, for the collection of duties, under native management. Their establishment was resented by Hongkong, which regarded them as constituting a fiscal blockade. The irritation resulted in transferring to the Kowloon commissioner the control of there stations and the management of all matters relating to the native customs.

After the hoppo and likin boards withdrew from there

stations

stations, there still remained agents of certain syndicates who farmed the collection of likin on some of the principal articles of trade, such as kerosene, oil, matches etc. In the year 1890, these vested interests were got rid of and, since then, the foreign inspectorate has been the sole fiscal authority at those stations.

These stations, which, with the opium-examination hulk, constitute the Kowloon customs, are not places of original departure or of final entry for goods. There is little or no population at any of them, and junks call there solely

solely to have their cargoes examined and pay the leviable dues and duties.

The general recording office is located at Hongkong. The office buesiness is all done there.

It is an anomaly that a foreign customs office should exist at Hongkong but, in practice, it is found convenient for the merchants and shippers.

The main duty of the Kowloon customs is to prevent smuggling. The line to be guarded is mainly on the water, but it also includes the land boundary between British and Chinese Kowloon, which is

some

some two and one half miles in length. Across this line the most daring smuggling took place prior to 1887. A guard, consisting of one hundred and fifty Chinese with six foreign officers, armed with Winchester rifles, now patrols this frontier night and day. A bamboo lattice fence eight feet high has been constructed along the entire line. There are six gates in this fence. Smuggling has been completely prevented.

The water boundary is over twenty miles long all round the island. Three revenue steamers of ocean-going

capacity

capacity, seven launches, and three steam pinnaces are used in this work. As the boundary line is nowhere more than a few hundred yards from the Hongkong shore, it is easy for junks to slip across it when a launch or steamer is out of the way.

The importation of kerosene oil has trebled in the last four years.

In 1891, the imports and exports amounted to Tk Tls. 35.548.258. Rice is the chief article of import. In 1891, it amounted to Tk Tls. 6.280.062. The larger portion of this rice comes from countries to the

south

south. All such foreign rice is landed or transhipped at Hongkong and is carried into China in junks, while Chinese rice is taken into China in the same vessel in which it was loaded at the place of shipment, and, being carried practically in steamers, is accounted for in the Canton returns. The importation of rice into Canton in 1891 was Hk Tls. 6.624.126.

The volume of trade at Kowloon is liable to be affected by the measures which the provincial authorities adopt to increase their revenue. It sometimes suits them to have goods

goods carried by steamers and sometimes by junks. For example, in 1891, the Loppo at Canton adjusted his levy of duty so that tea exported on junks paid less duty than when carried on steamers. The result was that under the heading of tea the Kowloon figures were increased by more than a million taels over the previous year. Again, an unduly heavy tax imposed on goods carried by junks will drive them into steamers and vice versa. This happened in the case of kerosene oil in 1890 and 1891. In June 1890, a special tax of forty dollar cents a case

was

was imposed on it. Its carriage in a short time was transfered to steamers as far as Canton, where it further protected itself by means of transit pass.

The total collections at Kowloon for 1891 were Hs. 609-758. Opium produced Hs. 159-554. The small proportion of collections to the total value of the trade is explained by the facts that rice is free, and exports from Canton by junks pay duty there. Sixty per cent of the whole imports and exports go to and come from Canton.

The quantity of opium entering China through the

Kowloon

Kowloon customs has been rapidly diminishing. This diminution is not accounted for by a decline in the demand. It has been made up by gains at Canton and Lappa and by increased sales at Swatow. Smuggling, also, has increased and has been facilitated by the ruling of the Hongkong Supreme Court that opium need not be imported in the original chests.

The average price of Patna opium at Hongkong was, in 1891, $489.00. The duty and likin on a chest (120 catties) is $200. Native opium has not appeared at the Kowloon

stations

stations.

The average sight rate of exchange on London of the Mexican dollar at Hongkong, for 1891, was 4 3 d 2¼. No marked alteration seems to have taken place during the last five years in the quantities of native produce which a given sum of silver will purchase.

The junk trade has largely increased since the establishment of the Kowloon customs. There seems to be no system of native insurance for junks, but losses are distributed over a number of owners.

Launches under a certain tonnage are not considered

foreign

foreign vessels. They take out customs certificates. They carry passengers only. Small government steamers and launches and war junks are compelled to submit to inspection at the stations.

The able report of Mr. J. McLeavy Brown for the decade should be read in extenso.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Telegraphed granting
Confirm by mail.
MAR 1 1894

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 1 1894

No 1778.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 4th, 1894

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The Minister asks leave of absence.

No 1778.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 4th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I am suffering from a malady which is not at all dangerous and does not interfere with the discharge of my duties, but is nevertheless very annoying. Physicians advise me that I should visit a watering place where skilled treatment can be had.

I

I am hesitating as to asking leave to go to Japan, Germany or the United States - I, therefore, apply for leave to go home, or elsewhere, as may be decided. Possibly I may get well and, in that case, I shall not avail myself of leave.

In case I go on leave, I ask authority to turn this legation over to the first secretary.

It is scarcely necessary to remark that I have been in China more than eight years, and have never had leave nor been absent from my post.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Dip

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 6 1894

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
FEB 28 1894

No 1779.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 5th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

Noticed April 6/94

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The right to import machinery into China.

Synopsis

The Yamên still refuses to grant such right.

One enclosure.

No 1779.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 5th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to

1/1779 enclose a translation of a communication of the Tsungli Yamên to me, as dean of the diplomatic body, relating to the importation of machinery into China.

It will be seen that the Yamên vigorously adheres to the right of China to prohibit

such

such importation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Tungli Yamen to Mr. Denby, No 1, January 1st 1894.

Enclosure in No. 1779.

Copy of translation

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby.

No. 1 Jan. 1st 1894.

Upon the 11th of December last, the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States, wherein he stated that the foreign representatives claim that the prohibition of the introduction of machinery is to that extent a direct abrogation of the tariff treaty etc.

With regard to this question, the Prince and Ministers rowed observe that it has been frequently under discussion, and there is no need now of going into a reiteration of it: They rowed, however, explain their views upon the various points raised in the communication of the Minister of the United States.

1X

It is stated that "machinery
"has been for years imported
"without objection into nearly
"all the treaty ports and Formosa."

To this the Prince and Ministers would observe: Is it not known that there are various kinds of machinery - they are not all alike? There are kinds of machinery the importation of which has been permitted, but if cotton ginning machinery is really detrimental to the welfare of the people, it is right and proper to consider the action to be taken in the premises. China has the right of taking free and independent action in the matter and it should not be said in a general way that all kinds of machinery should be allowed to be imported.

The Minister of the United States refers to the fact that prohibited articles are clearly and specifically named (in

the

the tariff). From this the idea would seem to be that, as machinery is not mentioned in the tariff treaty, no prohibition should be made against it. Is it not known that new articles of commerce are being invented to no small extent and how could there be provided for in the tariff treaty? It is for China to decide, from time to time, as to what articles should be prohibited.

Again, it is stated, in the communication under acknowledgement, that "it has been proven that "(the laboring classes) have been "largely benefitted by the use of "machinery"; that "Chang Chih-tung, "Li Hung-chang and other great "men in China establish manufactories". To this the Prince and Ministers would reply that China herself bought the machinery and started these establishments

for

for the purpose of benefitting the common people. It is not the same as granting the right to foreigner to bring machinery into China to compete against the interest and welfare of the people.

In a word, the prohibition of the importation of the class of machinery referred to the Yamen regards, beyond doubt, as being perfectly right and proper.

The Minister of the United States and his colleagues point to the fact that the action taken is in violation of treaty stipulations. If it were a question provided for by treaty and were it then disregarded, it would in that case be a violation of treaty. But, since the treaty is silent on the subject, how can it be said to be a violation of its provisions?

Is not this raising a question

which

which seems irrelevant and brought forward as part of the stipulations of treaty?

The question at issue concerns the welfare of the Chinese people. Every country has the right to act freely and independently in such matters: There is no country that would adopt the principle of consulting the wishes (of foreigners) in matters that would bring about distress among its own people. There would, therefore, seem to be no necessity for the Minister of the United States to go to the extra trouble of a (continued) discussion of the subject.

A necessary communication addressed to

His Excellency

Charles Denby

No 1780.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 6th 1894

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —
Covering salary account
for quarter ended December
31st 1893

— — — — —

No 1780. One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 6th 1894

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to

Enclose a statement of my account for salary for the quarter Ended December 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

No 1781.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 6th, 1894.

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —
Enclosing Rent account
for quarter Ended 31st December
1893.

———— - - - ————

No 1781.

Our Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 6th 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for the quarter Ended December 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

No 1782.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 23 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 6th, 1894.

— Wm. Hunter Lay —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing account for hire of Embassy for quarter ended 31st December 1893

No 1782. one enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 6th 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for fees by Exchange for the quarter ended December 31st 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

No 1783.



Legation of the United States
Peking, January 6th, 1894.

Inclosure, Passport Bureau

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing Statement of Passports issued during quarter Ended December 31st 1893.

No 1783. one enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 6th 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to —
enclose a statement of the —
passports issued at this Legation
during the quarter ended December
31st 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

COPIED FOR CONGRESS.
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
FEB 28 1894

No 1784.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 9th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Trademarks

Synopsis

The Minister requests the Yamên to issue proclamation against counterfeiting trade marks.

One enclosure.

No 1784.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 9th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a copy of a communication sent by me to the Tsungli Yamên asking that a proclamation be issued reprobating the practice of counterfeiting, or fraudulently imitating, trademarks on American piece-goods, and directing all officials to assert

and

and punish all persons who are found guilty of this offence.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamen
No 1 January 9th 1894.

Enclosure in No 1784.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên.

No 1 January 9th 1893.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I have the honor to address you on the subject of the counterfeiting or fraudulent imitation in China of trademarks on American piece goods.

It is plain that to place on goods manufactured in China a foreign trademark is injurious both to the purchaser of such goods and to the manufacturer thereof. The purchaser is deceived into buying an inferior article, and one different from what he intended to buy, and the manufacturer loses the sale of his own honest goods.

In Western countries, it is competent for any manufacturer

to

to adopt and register any trade mark and appropriate it to his own use, and thereafter it is both a crime and a civil injury to counterfeit or fraudulently imitate such device. It is believed that no such law exists in China, but that such practices are nevertheless reprobated by Chinese officials and are inhibited and punished when brought to their attention.

As an example of such action, I call your attention to the copy of a proclamation recently issued by the Tientsin Customs Taotai which is enclosed herewith. I am informed that the practice of counterfeiting trademarks exists in other places besides Tientsin. My object in addressing Your Excellencies on the subject is to request that you will instruct the officials of the various provinces

to

to issue proclamations
reprobating this injurious
practice and directing them
generally to arrest and punish
all persons who are found guilty
of engaging therein.

I have etc. etc.

(Sig'd) Charles Derby.

(Translation)

Proclamation of the Tientsin Customs Taotai

Acting United States Consul C. D. Tenney has sent a despatch to the Tientsin Customs Taotai, in which he states that Mr. W. R. Eastlack, of the China and Japan Trading Company, of Shanghai, has complained that the business of the said company has been injured by the fraudulent practices of the Tientsin piece-goods dealers in counterfeiting the "Indian Head" trademark. On receipt of this information the Acting Consul sent a man to purchase cloth at various native shops in Tientsin and thus succeeded in obtaining from "Ch'un Hua Tai", "Heng Tai Hao", "Yung Hsing Ch'eng" and "Yung Shun Hao", sheetings which on comparison with the genuine "Indian Head" sheeting

furnished

furnished by Mr. Castlack proved to be as charged fraudulent imitations. The Acting Consul therefore requests the Customs Taotai to take action accordingly.

In response to the foregoing despatch, the Customs Taotai summoned the managers of the four longs above-mentioned and warned them to discontinue the sale of the falsely marked "Indian Head" sheetings, and commanded them to dye all such goods as might be in stock before they offered them for sale, at the same time threatening them with severe punishment if they failed to comply with the order.

The said longs agreed to obey and filed a bond as security.

This proclamation is now issued to warn all the wholesale and retail piece-goods dealers

of Kentrin not to change the trademarks on cotton piece-goods and not to deal in falsely marked goods. In future if any one is discovered breaking this regulation his goods will be confiscated and in addition the offender will be severely dealt with.

Let everyone concerned take notice.

Denby to Gresham

No. 1785.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
FEB 28 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 10th, 1895.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledging despatches

№ 1785.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 10th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows:

№ 837 of the 15th November,

" 838 " " 20th "

" 839, 840 and 841, of the 22nd November, and № 842 of the 23rd November.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Denby No 1

No. 1786.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
FEB 28 1894

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 10th, 1894.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

"The Nation" has been received

No 1786.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 10th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No 342, of the 23rd November last, and, in reply, to state that I have received the bundle of "Nations" therein refered to, and subsequent copies of the paper.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 5 1894

No 1787.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 5 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 13th, 1894.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Acknd. April 6/94.

Subject

The right to import machinery into China.

Synopsis

Joint discussion discontinued
Each minister will demand
damages in proper cases of
breach of treaty.

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

MAR 5 1894

Mr. Landis:

This lets daylight in on the question.

It might be shelved now by a brief instruction saying that the last peremptory refusal of the Chinese Govt to continue the discussion appears to have left us course open save that which Mr. D. now reports to have been adopted by the majority of the Diplomatic Representatives, namely, to take up separately any case of track

of treaty stipulations that may properly arise and demand damages therefor in behalf of their own countrymen.

Without now discussing the ultimate merits of the contention, concerning which Mr. D. makes sundry pertinent comments, it will suffice to instruct him to receive any complaint made by citizens of the U.S. of violation of treaty rights in their regard, and submit it to the Dept for instruction. He will avoid any further entanglement in joint or concurrent protests.

ABA

87

One enclosure.

No 1787.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 13th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1779, of the 5th instant, I enclosed a translation of a communication, relating to the right of foreigners to import machinery into China, received from the Tsungli Yamên, the 1st instant. I have now the honor to enclose the reply thereto of the foreign representatives, excepting the minister of Russia.

57

R

It will be seen that the joint discussion of the question has been discontinued, and that each minister will take up any case of breach of treaty stipulations that may properly arise, and demand damages therefor.

While the foreign representatives have carefully avoided raising the question of the right of foreigners to manufacture native products in China, confining themselves to the discussion of the right to import only, the Yamen has argued the question as if the sole point at issue was that right. The foreign representatives are not unanimous in the desire to secure the

right

right of manufacturing native goods in China. Some of them care nothing for this privilege, and believe even that our own countries would be injured by the competition which would result from the establishment of manufacturing industries on a great scale in China, owing to the extremely low wages paid here.

I do not regard the decision of the Yamen as affecting the importation of all machinery but simply such machinery as is used in manufacturing cotton cloth. As our own second article of value of imports is American piece goods

goods, I am not prepared to say that we are at all injured by this ruling. As long as manufacturing is done only by the officials, I do not think that our trade will be much affected.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên

No 2, January 13th, 1894.

Enclosure in No 1787.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên

No 2. January 13th 1894.

The Minister of the United States has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the communication of the Prince and Ministers of the 1st instant, relating to the question of the right of foreigners to import machinery into China.

He is requested by his colleagues, the Ministers of France, Spain, Great Britain, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium and the Chargés d'Affaires of Italy and Japan, to say that the Prince and Ministers, in their communication, persist in ignoring the wording of Rule I, which is part of the tariff treaty and which specifies the duty to be levied on unenumerated articles, in which machinery

is

is, beyond doubt, included.

The foreign representatives would be wanting in their duty to their respective governments were they to allow the interpretation now attempted to be put upon the treaty by the Prince and Ministers.

The Minister of the United States is also requested to say that the foreign representatives will hold the Chinese government responsible for damages to any person who may be injured by the above cited erroneous ruling.

In notifying the Prince and Ministers of there conclusions, the Minister of the United States is further requested to state that the foreign representatives do not propose to continue the discussion in this form. Cases, as they arise, of breach of treaty

stipulation

stipulations will be presented by the foreign representatives whose nationals may be interested therein.

The Minister of the United States avails etc. etc

Bookkeeper

No 1788

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 5 1894
RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
AUG 9 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 15th, 1894.

—Mr. Charles Denby—

to the

—Secretary of State—

—Subject.—

Transmitting Repairs Account for the six months ended the 31st December 1893.

W. L.

No. 1788 One Enclosure

Legation of the United States,

Peking, January 15th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to transmit herewith the account for Repairs of this legation for the six months Ending December 31st 1893.

By reference to my account rendered June 30th, 1893, it will be seen that I carried forward a balance from last account to December 31st, 1892, of $125.63

By a letter received from the Comptroller, dated October 30th, 1893,

I

I am informed:

"Report 162.742, Buildings and Grounds
balance due the United States $125.63
Balance per your account .00
Difference $ 125.63

being charge in your account for that
item, disallowed by Department of State,
and with which you will please credit
the United States in your next account"

No reason is assigned for
the disallowance of the charge of
$125.63, I am left to conjecture that
it was disallowed because it was
carried forward from the year
1892, on the theory that the allowance
for repairs must be spent in the
year and cannot be carried
forward.

That such a rule exists with
regard

regard to the fiscal year which ends June 30th, I am aware, but I did not, nor did the accountant of this Legation, know that this rule applied to the Repairs Account and forbade that a charge should be carried forward over December 31st of any year.

I do not think it has ever been assumed by the Department that the year covering the Repairs Account ended December 31st. This Legation has considered it as Ending June 30th.

The accountant has in the Report now submitted credited the United States with $125.63 as directed. The contractor to whom this amount was paid has included it in the voucher given for other work done

during

during the last six months.

The building of the new office has involved considerable unwonted expenditure. The sum of $300. gold was not spent in repairs proper, but was paid to Mr. F. D. Gamewell, - the agent of the property, to enable him to put up the new building. There was other heavy expenditure made necessary by the erection of the new office building.

I hope that the account as rendered will be approved. I have unquestionably paid the $125.63 for repairs and I ask that credit be allowed for it.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject and file. Your views on the general questions involved appear to be discreet.
MAR 5 1894

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 5 1894

No 1789.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 15th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 5 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The settlement of the Sungpu murder case.

Synopsis

Terms thereof set forth.
Further action by the diplomatic body proposed. Discussion on the subject.

One enclosure.

No 1789.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 15th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1776, of the 2nd instant, I had the honor to inform you of the reported terms of settlement of the case involving the recent "Sungpu murders", arrived at by the Chinese authorities and the Consul General of Sweden and Norway.

At the time of writing that

that despatch, no official report from the Consul General had reached me.

I have now received from him a translation of a communication sent to him by the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, which, he says, embodies the terms of settlement and of which a copy is enclosed. This paper sets forth that the chief criminals, Li Han Pan and Chu Lien Foh, are to die the death of strangulation. Two others are to be struck with a wooden weapon (not bamboo) one hundred blows, to be chained to an iron pointed staff attached to a

1
1789

stone

stone weight, which they are to wear during five years, and to be branded with two characters, "rob" and "snatch", on their faces. Four other persons are to be bamboood eighty blows and cangued one month.

After the expiration of twenty months, should it be possible to let missionaries go to Sungpu, they will be allowed to do so.

Hankow taels 32.000 are allowed as compensation for the injuries done — taels 10.000 each to the families of the deceased, and taels 12.000 for loss of furniture, books

books, clothes, etc.

The Macheng magistrate is not punished in any way. The viceroy claims that he wanted the deceased to go into the city to live, that they refused to do so and brought the mischief on themselves.

This settlement is not approved by the English press nor by the great body of the missionaries. It is admitted that, as far as Sweden and Norway are concerned, the settlement is final, but it is claimed that the diplomatic body has the right to push, and ought to push, the matter to a more satisfactory result. It

is

is claimed that the affair should not be let to drop until the Kungli Yamên has satisfactorily proved that the really guilty parties have been punished.

My opinion is that the diplomatic body will decline to go into this question. A trial according to Chinese law was had, a number of persons found guilty were condemned and, most probably, have already been executed or punished as the sentence set forth provides. To demand the shedding of more blood does not seem to be a procedure in accordance with the teachings

of

of Christianity. I shall be surprised if our missionaries endorse such a demand.

Insuperable difficulties would be in the way of the foreign representatives should they undertake to appeal from the judgement rendered and to procure another judgement. There would be no proof procurable that innocent men were punished, no mode of conducting a new trial differently from the old one, and no good result would ensue. Feelings of pity and charity, no doubt, cause every foreigner to sympathize with the sufferings of the four Chinese refugees

from

from Tungpu who are now at Peking and who were mentioned in my despatch cited above, but it would seem that diplomatic intervention is not possible in their behalf. These victims of oppression are amenable to Chinese laws. They are not even converts to Christianity. Their cases do not come within the purview of any treaty. I have been compelled, several times, to refuse to intervene in behalf of Chinese subjects who were maltreated by the administrators of Chinese law because they had assisted Americans. I have never gone further than to ask, as matter

of

of grace, that some alleviation of their suffenings should be granted. It is possible that some such procedure may be approved by the diplomatic body.

It has been suggested that the foreign representatives should demand that appropriate proclamations should be posted in Sungpu and its vicinity reciting the terms of the settlement mentioned, and warning the people that foreigners must be treated properly, and that the whole force of the government will be used for their protection. This proposition is worthy of consideration.

The two Swedish missionaries now at Peking propose to address the

the diplomatic body at length on the matters herein alluded to and until they have done so no action will be taken.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Despatch from Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to Consul General Bork Dec. 13th 1893.

Copy

Enclosure in No 1789

An official despatch from Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to Carl Bock Esquire, Consul General for Sweden and Norway, dated Dec. 13th 1893.

This despatch is in reference to the Sungpu case in the district of Macheng. I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of all your former despatches and have taken note of them. With regard to this case the criminals had to be caught, tried - and fearing that injustice may be done towards them, a high official was sent to that place to investigate and see that justice was done, owing to this many days have gone by, and delayed me from answering yours.

With regard to our interview which took place on the 29th November to consult and settle this

this case. I am aware that you (Consul General) are such an able man, and not willing to listen to all what the missionaries say, but have a resolute mind of your own, and I (Viceroy) greatly respect and think highly of you for this. In this affair, I have tried to do whatever could be done, owing to China's friendly feelings toward other countries and further we treat all nations alike.

Within these few days the Hsikwan Taotai and others have settled this case with you; and I have looked minutely into what you all have decided upon, namely the three terms of settlement.

1st The chief criminals are to be tried according to Chinese law, with different punishments to the nature of their crime, and

that

that they have been sentenced by the provincial judge.

According to Chinese law, when a great many men kill a person, the one who strikes the fatal blow has to be strangled; another law is, when a crowd attacks a person and it cannot be ascertained who struck the fatal blow, then the person who gave the first blow would be the chief criminal.

Now Li Kan pan seeing Mr. Ekholm mounting the roof rushed forward and followed him and threw him over to the ground and attacked him with a wooden instrument; he was the first to attack him and then a crowd came up and finally he was killed. Next came Chu Lien Tok who seeing Mr. Johansson going on the roof followed him, and while fighting with him dodged aside and kicked the latter

over

over, and with the crowd killed him, therefore these two criminals Li Kan-par and Chu Lien-foh are to die the death of strangulation.

Li Foh Nga and Lin Yu-chen seeing the house on fire followed the crowd and took away the things. They are to be "Liang" (that is struck with a wooden weapon not bamboo) one hundred blows and to be deported for three years; but the latter part of the sentence has been altered to this, that they are to be chained to an iron pointed staff attached to a stone weight and to wear it for five years - after that time has elapsed, they are to be discharged - further they are to be branded with two characters namely "rob" and "snatch" on their face.

Li Kin-Yer and crowd went into the house; Chu Fu, Woo Ze Tai, Chen Kuan-Fer and Lin Yuan

Yuan Kai were the originators to commence the row, on account of this these men are a bad lot, and to Chinese law they are to be bambooed eighty blows and cangued a month.

I (Viceroy) have looked over these various sentences given by the provincial judge and find them satisfactory since this is so, I do not see any use for you (Consul General) to witness the trial, and I will tell them to give above sentences.

2nd Now we intend to go and enlighten the people at Sungpu in the district of Macheng, beginning from the 1st of the 11th moon of this year ending 20 months — afterwards when you may allow them to go and preach. I (Viceroy) have investigated and find that the people of Sungpu are very barbarous and are not willing to adopt

foreign

foreign religions, on account of that, no missionaries of any nationality have been there to preach, sell books or build a church. Only there two Swedish missionaries Messrs Ekholm and Johansson went there to rent a house, and then this affair took place, it cannot be said that there was a church.

Twenty months from now they may go to preach and we intend now to enlighten the people and tell them that foreign religion persuades men to be good, and that they have no intention to force you to believe, as it depends entirely on yourselves whether you believe or not. Hereafter we will not allow any such trouble to happen again. After 20 months, if we see it is still impossible to go, the Taikwan Taotai will send a despatch to inform

you

you of it, and to await awhile before going, for fear of another case like Messrs Ukholm and Johansson happening again - then both our two nations will be at peace - a sign of our friendliness.

Owing to our seeing what a pitiable death these two missionaries came to - losing their clothes, books furniture etc. we have given them for compensation Hankow Tls. 32.000.

I (Viceroy) having gone into this affair with regard to Messrs Ukholm and Johansson, I find that they did not understand the people of Macheng and went blindly to that place to preach. At the time they went, the people there were always trying to create some trouble and the local officials went several times to prevent them from doing so, and the Macheng

magistrate

magistrate invited them to go into the city to live, and they would not go, this mischief, as it were, was brought on themselves.

As they have met their death in such a pitiable manner, we have given them a liberal compensation of Tls 10.000 each, and for loss of furniture, books, clothes etc. we have given Tls. 12.000, the sum total being Hankow Tls. 32.000.

I have informed the Haikwan Taotai to send you a despatch with the amount mentioned which please receive.

The Sungpu case is now concluded, which please acknowledge by a despatch. Owing to this affair I have sent this despatch to you.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 5 1894
RECEIVED.

No 1790.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 17th, 1894.

—Wm Charles Denby—
to the
—Secretary of State—

—Subject—
Enclosing Statement of account for Contingent Expenses for the quarter Ended December 31st, 1893.

———

No 1790 One Enclosure

Legation of the United States,

Peking, January 17th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for Contingent Expenses for the quarter ended December 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

C. M.

Enclosure 1 - Statement as above.

Dip

No 1791.



Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 22d 1894.

—Wm. Charles Denby—
to the
—Secretary of State—

—Subject.—

Enclosing duplicate account for salary for quarter ended December 31st, 1893.

———

No 1791.

One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States

Peking, January 22d, 1894

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my account for salary for the quarter ended December 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate Statement as above.

No 1792.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 22d, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

— Wm. Rhoades Dudley —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of Post-Account for quarter Ended December 31st, 1893.

No 1792. One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 22d 1894

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you Enclosed duplicate Statement of the Rent account of this Legation for the quarter Ended December 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate Statement as above.

No 1793.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 22d, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

— Wm Woodville Rockhill —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of passports issued during quarter ended December 31st 1893.

No 1793 One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 22d, 1894

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, DC.

Sir:—

I have the honor to Enclose duplicate statement of the passports issued at this Legation during the quarter Ended December 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate Statement as above.

No 1794.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 19 1894
COPIED FOR CONGRESS

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 24th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

Acknd. 21st May '94. R.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Copy to Treasury May 5. 1894

Inclosure May 4/94.

Subject

The transportation of coolies to Brazil.

Synopsis

The Yamên desires United States vessels to be prohibited from engaging therein.

Mr Frisbie

Send copy to Chas Mason with our opinion substantially as stated by Mr Denby

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE MAY 4 1889

Mr Uhl.

I have examined sec 2158 to 2162. R S, in connection with subsequent legislation restricting Chinese immigration to this country.

I think Mr Denby is clearly right in the opinion that the subsequent legislation does not affect the operation of the sections named upon the coolie trade carried on by American citizens or in American vessels, between China and other foreign countries.

Mr Denbys reply to the Yamen may therefore I think be approved

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Mr. Uhl:

I have held this under the directions attached, but would suggest the advisability of having the statutes construed by the Solicitor or by the Attorney General; or better that the despatch be referred to the Treasury Department for an expression of views.

W. E. D.

Mr. Fairman may note for new edition of Cons. Reg.

Mr. Fawson

Please consider and give me your views.

Adee.

when his N° 1794 is ackd.;
and the Dept's concurrence in his views ~~was~~ expressed.

The misleading note on p 109 Consular Reg's 1888, to which Mr Denby refers, should be omitted from the next edition of the Reg's, and specific instructions on this subject should be given to Consuls as was done in the edition of 1881.

Respy W. D. Denby.

Mr. Hill:

I have t
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attended, but
suggest the ad
of having the
construed by
Solicitor or by the Attorney
General; or better
that the despatch
be referred to the
Treasury Depart-
ment for an expres-
sion of views.

WED

Mr Frisbie
Ask Send copy to Chas
Mann with our opinion
substantially as stated by
Mr Denby

H

MAY 4 1897
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

Mr Faison
Please consider
me your views.

Ably

ec. 2158 to
section
with subsequent legislation
restricting Chinese immigra-
tion to this country.

I think Mr Denby is clearly
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the subsequent legislation
does not affect the operation
of the sections named upon
the coolie trade carried on by
American citizens or in Amer-
ican vessels, between China
and other foreign countries.

Mr Denbys reply to the Yamen
may therefore I think be approved

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CHIEF CLERK
BUREAU OF RECORDS

Denby.

Two enclosures.

No 1794.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 24th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a translation of a communication received from the Tsungli Yamên, wherein I am requested to instruct the consuls at the various Chinese ports to prohibit vessels of the United States from transporting coolies to Brazil. I enclose, also

also, a copy of my reply thereto.

Formerly this subject was specifically treated in the Consular Regulations. See Consular Regulations 1881 p. 115 § 347 et seq. These sections were omitted from the Consular Regulations of 1888. On page 109 of these regulations, it is stated that the provisions of the Acts of Congress, R. S. sections 2158-2162, relating to the importation of coolies, are practically suspended by the Act of July 5th 1884, and, for that reason, they are not reproduced.

This construction is rather narrow

narrow, and should not, in my opinion, find a place in any new edition of the regulations. It is true that sections 2158-2162 R. S. 1878 are superseded by the act of July 5th 1884 and later acts, so far as transportation of coolies to the United States is affected, but the said sections are not limited in their scope to the question of transportation to the United States alone. Section 2158 is applicable to the transportation of coolies "subjects of China or Japan "or any other oriental country", "from any port or place" "to any

"any foreign port or place".

The general subject of transporting coolies was discussed by this legation as early as 1871.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby, No. 4, Jan. 21st 1894.

2. Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên, No. 3, Jan. 23rd 1894.

Enclosure 1 in No 1794

Mr. Denby from the Tsungli Yamen

No 4. January 21st 1894.

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to state that they have recently received a communication from the Governor General of the two Kwang provinces, to effect that the advertisement for coolies at Macao for foreign countries has for years been distinctly prohibited.

During the month of September last, certain persons had porters put up on the streets inviting coolies to embark for Brazil, that the German steamer Tartar had been chartered for the purpose of carrying them thither, and the Governor General requested the Yamen to investigate the matter and have instructions issued prohibiting this traffic.

The

The Yamên would observe that no rules have been arrived at between Brazil and the Chinese Government in the matter of the exportation of coolies to Brazil, and the Brazilians have no right to privately seek the employment of coolies at Macao. Furthermore steamers of all nations have no right to be engaged in carrying coolies to Brazil. The Yamên has written to Baron Schenck, the German Minister, requesting him to instruct the German consuls at the treaty ports to prohibit the carrying on (by German vessels) of this traffic.

The Yamên has further received a note from the Inspector General of Customs stating that he has heard that there are one or two vessels at Macao for the purpose of transporting

coolies

coolies abroad.

The Yamen now, besides having addressed His Excellency the Portugese Minister on the subject, as in duty bound, addresses this communication to the Minister of the United States, requesting him to instruct the United States consuls at the various ports to look into this matter and prohibit the vessels of the United States from engaging in the transportation of coolies to Brazil; thus consolidating the friendly relations between the two countries, which is a matter of importance.

A necessary communication addressed to

His Excellency

Charles Denby,

United States Minister.

Enclosure 2 in No 1794

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên.

No 3. January 23rd 1894.

The Minister of the United States has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the communication of the Prince and Ministers of the 21st instant. The Prince and Ministers therein request the Minister of the United States to instruct the United States Consuls at the various ports to look into this matter and prohibit the vessels of the United States from engaging in the transportation of coolies to Brazil.

The Minister of the United States, in reply, takes pleasure in stating that the laws of the United States prohibit, under heavy penalties, the use of American vessels for the

transportation

transportation of coolies from China, or any other place, to be held to service or labor in any other country. Such transportation is permissible only when the emigration is voluntary, and the consuls must give certificates stating that fact. The attention of the consuls will be called to this law and they will be directed to enforce it strictly.

The Minister of the United States avails etc. etc.

Dip

No 1795.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 5 1894

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

Peking, January 24th, 1894.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State

rec'd. April 6/94.

Subject

The right to import machinery into China.

Synopsis

The right denied by the Yamên. Their communication and reply thereto enclosed.

Two enclosures.

No 1795.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 24th 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a translation of a communication received from the Tsungli Yamên relating to the right of foreigners to import machinery into China; also a copy of the answer of my colleagues and myself thereto.

1/795

2/795

This argument on my part has

has been conducted under the firm belief that the treaties permitted the introduction of machinery into China, and, therefore, foreign merchants had the right to insist on that privilege. The answer now enclosed seems to me conclusive on that question. Under the peculiar claims set up by the Yamên the subject grows in importance. If, as is claimed, an unenumerated article may be excluded because it is held to be "injurious to the interest and "welfare of the common people", the introduction of many articles which are now

Continually

continually imported may be prohibited. Such an objection, for instance, might be made to kerosene oil.

While I am thoroughly averse to doing anything which might inaugurate in China the manufacture of goods in competition with our own industries, still I am convinced that our true policy is to contest and deny, on every occasion, the alleged right of China to modify the treaties without the consent of the foreign powers.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby, No 2, Jan. 19th 1894.

2. Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên, No 5, Jan. 24, 1894.

Copy Enclosure 1 in No 1795.

(Translated by F. D. Chesheer)

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Denby.

No 2. January 19th 1894.

In the matter of the importation of cotton ginning machinery, in August, September and November of last year, the Yamen addressed repeated communications to the Minister of the United States setting forth that this class of machinery was used for the purpose of manufacturing the native product and thereby proved detrimental to the means of livelihood of the common people; that the principle certainly does not admit of any country insisting on another friendly country to be unmindful or inattentive of the interests of its trading classes; that the ad valorem clause of 5 per cent duty in the tariff could only

apply

apply to artiles that are not
injurious to the interest and
welfare of the common people
but if they work harm to the
localities in which they are
introduced they do not come
within this regulation and
it rests with the Chinese
government to decide after
due consideration whether or
not their importation should
be permitted.

The above, the Minister of
the United States was requested
to lay before his colleagues
and is a matter of record.

The Yamên should certainly
not be pressed in matters that
are difficult of accomplishment,
hence the Prince and Ministers
have not been averse to
thoroughly and minutely explain
their position in the premises.

Further, the machinery requisite
for the various establishments

in

in the provinces China can herself purchase in foreign countries - There is no need for foreign merchants to bring machinery into China and since they do not bring it how can there be any loss or injury to them?

In the communication of the Minister of the United States of the 13th instant, he says that the foreign representatives do not propose to continue this discussion (in this form) and that they will hold the Chinese government responsible for damages etc.

The Prince and Ministers cannot but express astonishment at these remarks. They would, however, call to mind the case of the importation of machinery by the Japan mail steamer in May last, about which the Minister of the United States

addressed

addressed the Yamên in July last, wherein he stated that the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai had, in obedience to instructions received from the Minister Superintendent of Northern Trade, ordered the said machinery to be returned to Japan.

The Yamên has already sent several communications in reply to the Minister of the United States to be submitted to the diplomatic representatives, so that their nationals alike may know in future that they should not import into China the class of machinery referred to. Those disregarding this rule and importing machinery in violation of this prohibition, which cannot be landed, thus causing them loss, the Prince and Ministers have to say, in such cases, it will be no concern of China,

and

and how could she be called upon to pay an indemnity for any loss incurred?

The Prince and Ministers have clearly explained in previous communications their views of the tariff. In this they are of the opinion that they have made no mistake and there is no need to repeat them.

As in duty bound they send this communication for the information of the Minister of the United States.

In submitting the previous communications in reply to the diplomatic representatives, the Prince and Ministers hope that they will calmly treat with due consideration the views expressed.

Enclosure No 2 in No 1795.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamen.

No 5 January 24th 1894.

The Minister of the United States has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the communication of the Prince and Ministers, of the 19th instant, relating to the right of foreigners to import machinery into China. He is requested by his colleagues, the Ministers of France, Spain, England, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium and the Chargés d'Affaires of Italy and Japan, to send the following reply thereto.

The Prince and Ministers assert "that the ad valorem "clause of 5 per cent duty in "the tariff could only apply "to articles that are not injurious "to the interest and welfare

of

"of the common people".

The foreign representatives can in nowise admit the truth of this assertion. Such a construction of the treaties would put it in the power of China to render nugatory every commercial privilege contained in the treaties. Every article of trade and commerce might be arbitrarily excluded by the simple declaration that it was, or would be, injurious to the people. Such a statement also might be accompanied by a declaration — as in this case — that the Government of China intended to buy for itself the article said to be injurious, and the notorious fact — as in this case — might also exist that the prohibited article was being largely imported by various stock companies, in diver parts of China.

He

The announcement of such a novel and destructive principle makes it necessary to revert again to the treaty stipulations. Attention is called to the "Treaty of Wang Hiya", concluded July 3rd 1844 between China and the United States. The tariff was "fixed by and made "a part of this treaty".

In the list of imports this claure is found—

"Class 16. Unenumerated. "All new goods which it has "not been practicable to enumerate "herein, a duty of five per cent "ad valorem".

The Prince and Ministers will notice that the word "new" is used, showing the evident intention to include under the head of "unenumerated" all articles not particularly specified as well as all articles which might thereafter be

invented

invented or created. China herself, through her customs officials and her provincial authorities, so construed the treaties.

A clause as to machinery was inserted in the tariff in or about the year 1878. It was so inserted because machinery was daily being imported. This new clause announced to the world that machinery might be lawfully imported – as the treaties provided – into China, and business engagements were made by foreigners as well as natives in accordance therewith. Such a publication and such acquiescence estop China from denying the existence of a right thus admitted.

The Prince and Ministers, judging by the despatch under consideration and previous despatches, seem to entertain the idea that China

can

can, at any time it pleases, alter the treaties. This idea is utterly erroneous. China has herself provided the mode and manner in which treaties can be changed. In the second article of the treaty of 1844 with the United States, above cited, there is this clause:

"If the Chinese Government "desires to modify in any "respect the said tariff, such "modification shall be made "only in consultation with "consuls or other functionaries "thereto duly authorized in "behalf of the United States and "with consent thereof."

The treaty between China and France, concluded the 24th September 1844, is even more explicit than the American treaty. The second article thereof confers on the French (and, under the favored nation clause, on all

other

other treaty powers the right of importation as fixed in the tariff; a prohibition to augment any duty; the right to import all merchandise not formally excluded; the renunciation of the right on the part of China to increase, or add to, the number of contraband articles or of monopolies, unless the French government shall beforehand give its full and entire consent to such increase or addition.

The demonstration thus seems to be perfect and complete that the Chinese government has no power to inhibit the importation of machinery.

The Prince and Ministers express astonishment at the statement heretofore made that any foreigner who is unlawfully denied the right to land machinery in China

will

will be entitled to claim damages from the government thereof. In making this statement, the foreign representatives intended nothing offensive. For every wrong there must be a remedy. If foreign trade is crippled and foreign merchants suffer losses by reason of the unlawful acts of the customs officials done under the orders of their superiors, it would be the duty of the foreign representatives to insist that pecuniary compensation should be made.

The Minister of the United States avails etc. etc.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack. by Number and File.
APR 16 1894
aah

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 16 1894
COPIED FOR CONGRESS

No 1796.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 26th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Regulations for bearers of passports.

Synopsis

Yamen now propose that passports be shown on demand made.

Two enclosures.

No 1796.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 26th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a translation of a communication received from the Tsungli Yamên, on the subject of the exhibition of passports by foreigners traveling in China, together with a copy of my reply, as dean, thereto.

It will be seen that the

Yamên.

Yamên has receded from its demand that travelers should search out the local authorities en route and exhibit their passports, and now proposes that passports shall be exhibited on demand made by certain local officials.

It is now probable that the matter will be satisfactorily arranged.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby, No. 3, Jan. 20. 1894.
2. Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên No. 6, Jan. 26. 1894.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1796.

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby

No. 3. January 20th 1894.

The Prince and Ministers, on the 30th December, had the honor to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States, acknowledging receipt of the Yamen's communication setting forth that foreigners traveling in China should be required, when applying for passports either at Peking or in the provinces, to report in person to the local officials en route their arrival as well as their intended movements.

In this communication it is stated that the foreign representatives, disagreeing with the views of the Yamên, cannot accede to the proposition made etc.

The Prince and Ministers would

observe

observe that the object of the Viceroy in having the question of the examination of passports considered was to know of the movements of foreign travelers, to the end that the necessary measures could be taken to give them adequate protection, and this is not at variance with existing treaty stipulations.

The authority for traveling (in the interior) is the passport. If there be no examination, how will it be possible to know whether the foreign traveler is armed with a passport or not?

Hitherto there have been many passports applied for, the holders of which on arriving at a place have secretly withheld them from examination. There are also those who have recklessly gone into the interior of China without passports and who

have

have been unwilling to be interrogated, and, as their intended movements cannot be traced, how is it possible for the local officials to know anything about them?

It would, in such cases, be impossible for the local officials to take timely action to guard against their being robbed or plundered, and the offenders could only be arrested and punished after the offense had been committed and this would be too late.

In the communication of the Minister of the United States, it is pointed out that for travelers to report to the officials would be inconvenient. This there is no necessity of insisting on. And it is not impracticable for the local officials to instruct their subordinates, as suggested in the communication under

acknowledgement

acknowledgement, to report the arrival of foreign travelers within their jurisdictions. But it would be necessary for the foreign travelers to show their passports to the subordinate officials (village headmen and elders) in order that they would have some authority for making a report to the magistrates. If their passports are secretly withheld then this would be the same as the traveler being without a passport, and the local officials could not bear the responsibility of providing protection.

It is further remarked in the communication under review that to allow officials to plead absence or want of knowledge for not performing their duty is not in accordance with Chinese law in matters affecting Chinese subjects and such excuses should

not

not be received in cases in which foreigners are concerned. To this the Prince and Minister would observe: how can the local officials know beforehand that trouble is to occur between Chinese subjects? In cases of murder, it is only after the deed has been committed that punishment is inflicted on the guilty according to the code. And in cases where foreigners are concerned the local authorities naturally could only take similar action according to law.

If passports are not examined the local officials will not be in a position to know and keep track of the foreign travelers movements, and will not be able to guarantee that trouble may not occur, which would be a matter to be regretted.

As in duty bound, the Prince

and

and Ministers send this
communication in reply for
the information of the Minister
of the United States.

Enclosure 2 in No 1796.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên.

No 6. January 26th 1894.

The Minister of the United States, as Dean of the diplomatic body, on the 20th instant, had the honor to receive from the Prince and Ministers a communication relating to the matter of foreigners, when traveling in China, reporting in person to the local officials en route their arrival as well as their intended movements.

This paper has been submitted to the foreign representatives who have requested the Minister of the United States to return the following answer.

The foreign representatives do not in any wise dispute the statement made by the Prince and Ministers that their purpose

is

is to furnish to travelers adequate protection, nor do they dispute the proposition that China has the right, in accordance with the treaties, to require travelers to exhibit their passports when such exhibition is demanded by an official thereto duly authorized.

If travelers have, as stated by the Prince and Ministers, secretly withheld their passports from examination after having been applied to to show them, such action is not approved by the foreign representatives. If travelers have, as stated, recklessly gone into the interior without passports, such conduct is also disapproved of.

In the communication under acknowledgement, the Prince and Ministers distinctly concede that there is no necessity for travelers to report to the officials,

and

and that it is practicable for the local officials to instruct their subordinates to report the arrival of foreign travelers within their jurisdiction. As there were the exact points of difference between the Prince and Ministers and the foreign representatives, it would seem that there is no need for further discussion thereof.

The Prince and Ministers say "but it would be necessary for "the foreign travelers to show "their passports to the subordinate "officials (village headmen and "elders) in order that they would "have some authority for making "a report to the magistrates".

The treaties provide that "passports, if demanded, must "be produced for examination "in the localities passed through". How or by what official this demand shall be made is not

distinctly

distinctly stated.

It seems to the foreign representatives that the power or duty of demanding the exhibition of passports for examination should not be given to "village headmen and elders" or other numerous bodies of men. Such a practice would - or might - lead to abuses and perhaps to disturbances. It can serve no good purpose for foreigners to exhibit their passports to the headmen of every village through which they pass. On the other hand it may be advantageous to exhibit passports to the principal authorities on demand in district or prefectural cities.

If it pleases the Prince and Ministers to adopt some regulation on the subject, the foreign representatives will consider it carefully, and if it is approved,

they

they will make it known to travelers through the consuls and will enforce compliance therewith.

The Minister of the United States avails etc. etc. etc.

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 29th, 1894.

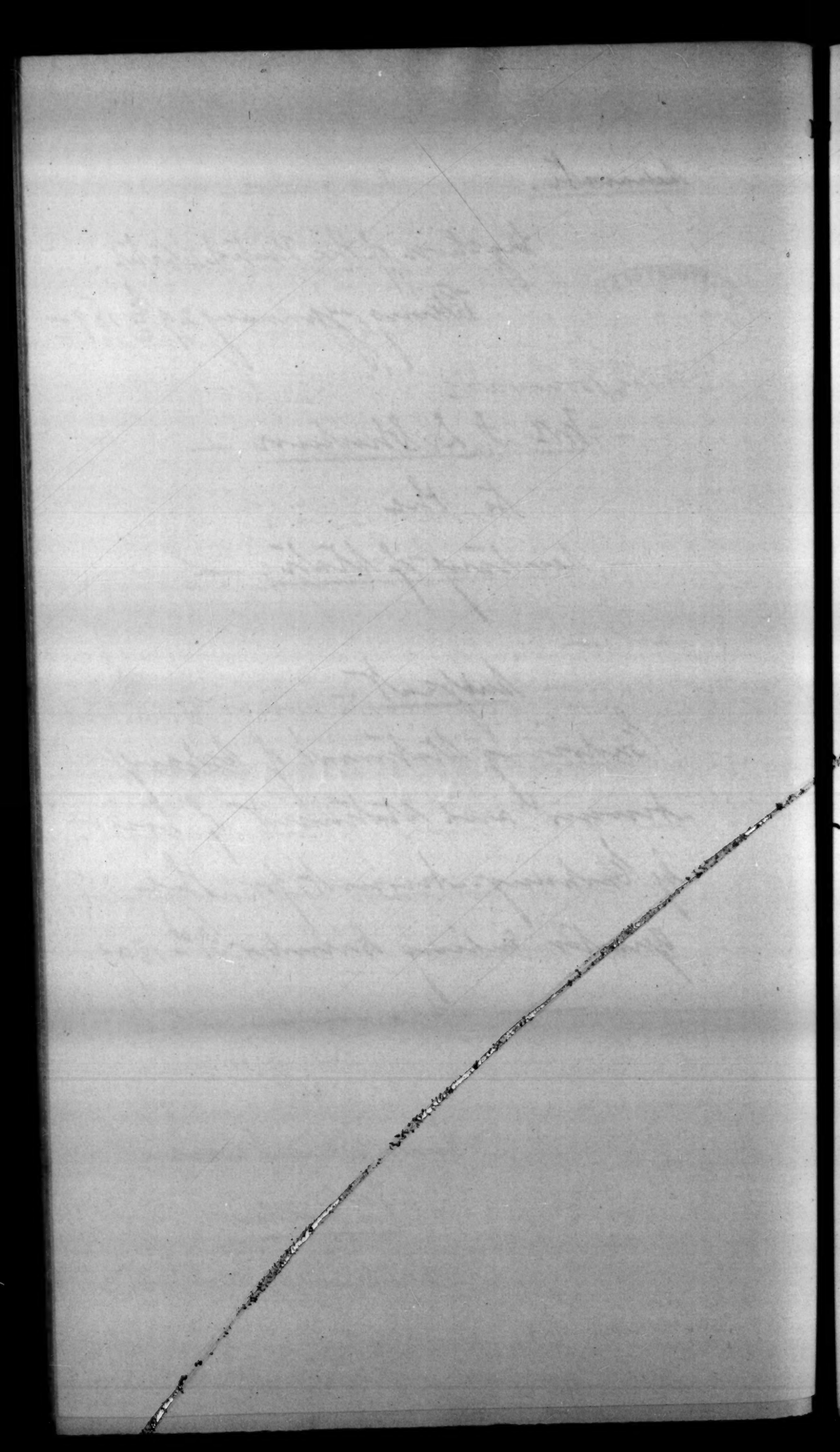
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

— Wm. F. D. Sherman —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject —

Enclosing Statement of Salary Account and Statement of Loss by Exchange Account for the quarter Ending December 31st 1893.

——— - - - ———



Separate. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 29th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my salary account and a statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ended December 31st 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

F. D. Chester

Interpreter of Legation

T. M. Enclosure 2—

Statements as above.

No 1797.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 29th, 1894

— Mr. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate account
for Coal by Exchange for quarter
ended December 31st, 1893.

No 1797. one enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 29th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of my account for Loss by Exchange for the quarter Ending December 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

No 1798.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 29th, 1894

— Wm. Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —

Enclosing duplicate statement of Contingent Expenses account for the quarter ended December 31st, 1893.

— — — —

No 1798. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 29th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to
enclose duplicate statement of
the contingent account of this
Legation for the quarter ended
December 31st 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

No 1799.

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 29th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

— Wm Woodville Rockhill —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of account for Repairs for six months Ended December 31st, 1893.

———

No 1799. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 29th, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to
enclose duplicate statement of the
account for Repairs to this Legation
premises for the six months Ending
December 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAR 16 1894

See Mr. D's draft - 16 Mar 94 - ✓ and 17 Mar 94

C

No 1800.

COPIED FOR CONGRESS.

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

Peking, January 30th, 1894.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Mrs. Lawrence's nationality

Synopsis

Mr. Denby holds that divorce of an English woman married to an American still leaves her an American citizen.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

MAR 15 1894

Dear Mr. Olney -

This seems to call for your opinion.

Mrs. Lawrence undoubtedly retains her Am. citizenship within the jurisdiction of the U.S. If within Brit. jurisdiction, she would revert to her British status, I think. But is she within British or Am. jurisdiction while in China - Both Great Britain and the U.S. have equal rights of extraterritoriality in China, and there is no forum there to settle conflicts of jurisdiction between them. In the Ross and other cases we have successfully maintained the continuance of our jurisdiction, under our statutes relating to seamen. Does our statute of citizenship give the like prevalent right? Is it pertinent, or decisive, that she was divorced by the Am. Consular Court?

A.A.G.

No 1800.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 30th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report a question of citizenship that has arisen in China and has been sent to me by the Consul at Canton for advice.

Mrs. Lester Lawrence lately went to Swatow and opened a hotel and bar room. Under British regulations, she is

subject

subject to a fine of $250 for opening the hotel and of $50- per day unless she takes out a license. There is no such American regulation. Mrs. Lawrence claims to be a citizen of the United States, on the ground that she was originally a British subject, that she might have been naturalized and that she maried a citizen of the United States. Under § 1994 R. S. U. S. 1878, which reads as follows:

"Any woman who is now
"or may hereafter be maried
"to a citizen of the United
"States, and who might

herself

"herself be lawfully
"naturalized, shall be
"deemed a citizen",
as construed by the Supreme
Court in Kelly v. Owen,
7 Wallace 496, her marriage
made her a citizen. Recently
she was divorced by the
judgement of the Court of
the United States Consulate
at Newchwang from her
American husband.

The Consul seems inclined
to the opinion that Mrs.
Lawrence, by the divorce,
lost her citizenship. I have
advised him that the decree
of divorce simply dissolved
the mantal relation, did

not

not affect citizenship and, in my opinion, based on the facts stated, Mrs. Lawrence remains a citizen.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1801.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack with satisfaction
This answer was not
unexpected.
MAR 15 1894

mar 16

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 15 1894

Given to press
aak

mar 16

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 30th 1894

To meet
mar 21

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Counterfeiting of trademarks.

Synopsis
Encloses copy of despatch
from Yamên stating that such
counterfeiting shall be prohibited

One enclosure.

No 1801.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 30th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I enclosed in my despatch No 1784, of the 9th instant, a copy of a communication addressed by me to the Tsungli Yamên on the question of the counterfeiting of trademarks in China.

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a copy of the answer of the Yamên thereto.

The Yamên has instructed

the

the Ministers Superintendent of Northern and Southern Trade to investigate and prohibit such practices.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby, Jan. 29th, 1894.

Enclosure in No. 1801.

(Translated by J. D. Sherling)

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby.

No. 6. January 29. 1894.

The Prince and Ministers on the 9th instant, had the honor to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States on the subject of the counterfeiting or fraudulent imitation in China of trademarks on American piece goods.

The Minister of the United States stated that it is plain that to place on goods manufactured in China a foreign trademark is injurious both to the purchaser of such goods and to the manufacturer thereof, and enclosed a copy of a proclamation issued by the Tientsin Customs Taotai. He also stated that he was informed that the practice of counterfeiting trademarks exists in other places besides

Tientsin

Tientsin and requested that
instructions be issued to the
officials of the various provinces
to issue proclamations reprobating
this injurious practice etc.

In reply the Prince and
Ministers would remark that
there are no cases of record
in the Yamen of accusations
having been made of such
practices at the various ports.
In Tientsin, the Customs Taotai
at the instance of the United
States Consul, issued his
proclamation against them.

The Prince and Ministers
would beg the Minister of the
United States to instruct
the Consuls under his
jurisdiction at the various ports
that when there is positive
proof of the trademarks of foreign
piece goods having been
fraudulently counterfeited, they
are to address the Customs

Taotai

Tautai of their port to enquire
into the matter and arrest
the guilty parties.

He Yamen has also
addressed the Ministers Superintendent
of Northern and Southern Trade
in like manner to investigate
and prohibit such practices.

A necessary communication.
addressed to

H.E. Charles Denby.
etc. etc etc.

Dip

COPIED FOR CONGRESS.

No 1802.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 31st, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 15 1894
RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 21 1894

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Judicial powers of Acting Consuls.

Synopsis

Mr. Denby refers to the Department the question whether an Acting Consul can exercise judicial functions.

No 1802.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 31st, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to present for your decision the important question – Can an acting consul perform judicial functions in China?

It is matter of common occurrence in all nationalities that a consul intending to be absent turns over the business of his consulate to

a

a colleague. Mr. Bedloe, being about to leave Amoy, transfered the interests of the United States to Dr Franz Grunenwald, the Acting German Consul. The selection of Dr Grunenwald to take charge of American interests was approved by this Legation. While thus acting as consul of the United States, Dr Grunenwald tried St. J. K. Edwards, an American citizen, for forgery, found him guilty and sentenced him to pay $100 fine and costs or to go to jail for one month.

The defendant appealed to the Court of the Minister

at

at Peking. The appeal was dismissed, under Section 4106 p. 790 R. S. U. S., 1878, because no appeal lies in any case in which the assessors have concurred in the judgement.

On the trial the defendant made the point that the acting consul could not exercise judicial functions. I dismissed the appeal because I had no jurisdiction, but I entertained serious doubts as to whether the acting consul was clothed with judicial power. I, therefore, advised Mr. Ch. Feindel, the present German Consul, acting for the United

States

States, to suspend all proceedings in the case until the question shall have been decided by the Department.

The case is in a nutshell. Section 4083 p. 787 R. S. U. S. 2nd Ed. 1878, confers judicial authority on consuls in China. Section 4130 p. 798, same book, defines what officials shall be held to be consuls. It provides that "the word consul "shall be understood to mean "any person invested by the "United States with and "exercising the functions of "consul-General, vice Consul-"General, Consul or vice Consul".

Because the words vice

Consul

Consul-General were formerly omitted from the revision, and because consular agents were not mentioned, the Department, in Mr. Fish to Mr. Seward, No. 10 Jan. 19th 1876, held that neither of these officers could exercise judicial functions. In that despatch, the Department holds that "no person or "officer, except those expressly "named or fairly included "within the terms of the law, "can exercise the powers or functions "of a judge."

It seems logically to follow that an acting consul cannot exercise judicial functions.

See

See, as bearing generally on this subject, the opinion of Attorney General Cushing of Sept. 19th 1855, construing Section 23 Act Aug. 11th 1848, which is nearly identical with section 4130 above cited.

See, also, Wharton's Dig. Int. Law Vol. 1 § 119, 125.

A plain way out of the difficulty suggested would be to appoint a vice consul in every consulate. It happens, however, at some of the ports, that no proper person can be found to fill that office.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Dip

√ and 28 mar

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU

MAR 27 1894

No 1803.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 5th 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 26 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The Shingpeu murders.

Synopsis
The diplomatic corps declines to interfere with the settlement of the case, but demands protection for missionaries etc. and relief for Chinese sufferers

Five enclosures.

No 1803.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 5th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a copy of a communication addressed to the foreign representatives by Revds. J. Edw. Lund and K. J. Lindström, Swedish missionaries; also a copy of my answer, as dean, thereto; also a copy of a petition to the foreign representatives by the foreign residents

3/1803 residents of Hankow; also a
copy of my reply, as dean,
4/1803 thereto; also a copy of my
communication, as dean, to
5/1803 the Tsungli Yamên.

These papers all relate
to the Sungpu murders.

As the government of Sweden
and Norway has made a
settlement with the Chinese
authorities of all its demands
on account of the murder of
its subjects, the diplomatic
corps could not see its way
clear to interfere with that
settlement. We have, however,
demanded better protection
for missionaries, their employees
and native Christians in the

province

province of Hupeh. We have
also made an earnest effort
to secure the return to
Sungpu of those unfortunate
natives who have been
driven out, or otherwise maltreated
on account of having served
the two Swedes or been
friendly to them.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosures:
1. Petition of Messrs Lund
and Lindström.
2. Reply of Mr. Denby to above.
3. Petition of the foreign residents
at

at Hankow,

4. Reply of Mr. Denby to above.

5. Mr. Denby to the Kungli

Yamên No 7 February 2nd 1894.

Enclosure 1 in No 1803

TO THE ENVOYS EXTRAORDINARY

AND

MINISTERS PLENIPOTENTIARY

OF

BELGIUM, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREAT BRITAIN, ITALY,

JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, RUSSIA, SPAIN, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

YOUR EXCELLENCIES,

We the undersigned beg to lay before you the following statement regarding the murder of our colleagues Messrs Wikholm and Johansson at Sung-pu in the Province of Hu-peh, and we earnestly solicit the exertion of your official influence with the Chinese authorities to secure an equitable settlement of the case. We appeal to you not as Swedes but as foreigners for the case affects all foreigners equally.

The district of Sung-pu was first visited by members of the Swedish Mission in the year 1890. In the Autumn of 1892 two of them went to live for some time in an inn in the city of Ma-ch'eng (麻城), about twenty miles distant from Sung-pu (宋埠), and finding the people willing to receive them, they decided to rent or buy a house and take up a permanent residence in the city. For this purpose a native teacher named Li 李, together with a native christian, were sent to Ma-ch'eng in the beginning of 1893; no sooner however had they begun to negotiate for a small property than the Ma-ch'eng Hsien sent his runners to them, and demanded to know for whom they were acting. Having been taken to the magistrate's Yamên, the two men frankly admitted that they were sent by foreign missionaries from Wu-chang. Thereupon the magistrate ordered the proprietor of the inn, in which they were staying, to throw all their things into the street, some of which were stolen by the runners, while he himself proceeded to have the men beaten. The native christian Chen (陳), received two hundred blows, the teacher only escaping on account of his literary degree. At midnight the magistrate had the citygate opened and ordered his runners to drive them away, saying that if they came back, or if any one assisted the foreigners to obtain a footing in Ma-ch'eng, they would have to suffer the severest punishment.

From this it will be seen that the difficulties of the mission lay entirely with the magistrate, but hoping that he would have less objection if the settlement were made in another place, the mission refrained from reporting the case to the consul, and decided to start work in the town of Sung-pu (宋埠), twenty miles nearer to Hankow.

To this place Messrs Wikholm and Lindström were sent shortly after the Chinese new-year 1893. They first stayed in an inn for some weeks and went daily on the streets, selling books and speaking to the people who were very friendly, often inviting the missionaries into the shops to drink tea. Several influential men, when they heard that they were not comfortable in the inn, suggested that they should rent a house for themselves, and offered them the use of a large empty temple (北門廟). As this place did not suit the missionaries, one of richest men in the town, named Mao (毛瑞生) offered them a large house on the main street, which, however proved too expensive. Several others were willing to rent or sell property to them inside the town, but the missionaries finally decided to rent a house on the Ho-kia-pu (郝家舖) street just outside the Eastgate, the owner of which was Ho-fang-kuen (郝芳坤). The people of the place, not only did not object to the missionaries taking possession of this house, but even assisted them in getting it repaired.

After the missionaries had occupied this house for some time without experiencing any trouble, they retired to Wu-chang for a short change, leaving the house in the charge of a trust-worthy native Christian named Yang. (楊才福). The magistrate of Ma-ch'eng (麻城), having in the mean time, heard of the renting of this house to foreigners sent his runners, during their absence in Wu-chang, to arrest the middle man Ho-kuang-ting (郝光鼎) and also the man Li (李漢龍) who had sublet it, and these two were both taken to the city of Ma-ch'eng and severely beaten. Their relatives reported the case to the missionaries, who at once reported it to Consul Thyen and asked him to request the Taotai that these men might be released; since according to the warrant of arrest (a copy of which had fallen into the hands of the missionaries) they had been accused of no other crime than the renting of a house to foreigners, and, as the magistrate of Ma-ch'eng put it, "receiving and assisting vagabonds from the West into the town of Sung-pu".

The Taotai of Hankow promised the Consul to write and enquire about the matter, and advised that the missionaries should remain at Wu-chang until he had received an answer. While waiting for this answer, the missionaries obtained information of the two prisoners receiving still more cruel treatment. Whereupon they suggested to the Consul that they should go down themselves and see what could be done. The Consul did not object to this plan; nor did the Taotai, who said he was going to send a small mandarin down to the place and the missionaries could go with him. So it was arranged that the party should start on the following Monday morning. In the meantime the Taotai received a letter from the magistrate of Ma-ch'eng stating that the

two men had been arrested not on account of their dealings with foreigners, but because they had been robbing graves. He also petitioned the Taotai to prevent the missionaries from returning to Sung-pu as trouble was anticipated. On the Monday morning when the missionaries went over to Hankow to join the Taotai's deputy and start for Ma-ch'eng, they learned from the Consul that the Taotai had changed his mind, and was not going to send a mandarin, nor would he permit the missionaries to go alone. The Consul had been informed that the two prisoners had been released, and that the missionaries were on no account to be allowed to proceed, lest serious trouble should arise, as the people objected to their living at Sung-pu. So the missionaries returned to Wu-chang somewhat comforted to hear that at least the two natives had been released. But the same day in the evening, a courier arrived from Ma-ch'eng stating that things were going from bad to worse. The two men had undergone fresh tortures, while the person who leased them the house had received in all one thousand blows, and the middleman somewhat fewer. The native christian Yang was threatened with the same treatment unless he left the house and retired to Wu-chang. On hearing this, the missionaries decided to start for Sung-pu on Tuesday morning, and told the consul that he had been incorrectly informed by the Taotai with regard to these two men, and that they could not sit still in Wu-chang when those who had helped them so much were exposed to such a severe persecution. "Very well", said the Consul, "if you must go, you go and I will write to the Taotai to that effect". So the missionaries went and on their arrival in Ma-ch'eng they found that a messenger had been sent before them by the Hankow Taotai to announce that they were coming. The magistrate received them in his yamên, and although at first he was unwilling to release the two natives, as he alleged they had not been arrested on account of dealings with foreigners, he afterwards, upon hearing that the missionaries had seen the warrant for their arrest, and that all the people knew that they had done nothing contrary to law, said that he would set them free on the following morning. But as the missionaries pressed the matter, and were unwilling to leave without the men, the magistrate at last yielded, and also refunded the money which he had received from their relatives, to purchase their release. Thus the two men who had been kept in jail from April 29th. to May 20th. were brought back to Sung-pu, and the missionaries again lived at their house at Ho-kia-pu where they experienced even more friendliness from the people, both inside and outside the town, than before. The two months that now followed before the murder took place was a time of perfect peace with the exception that placards were posted first by Kü-tsi-ho (屈子厚) and afterwards by Li-kia-chang (李嘉崇) to the effect that the foreigners were to be killed on the first of July. The missionaries informed Consul Thyen of this plan in the beginning of June and asked him to secure a proclamation in their favour from the Taotai. The Taotai instead of complying with the Consul's request, urged that the native christian Yang should be recalled as he was

said to have made himself objectionable to the people, and that trouble was anticipated if he remained at Sung-pu. In informing the missionaries of this fact, Mr. Thyen at the same time said that he did not think it advisable to leave any foreigners at Sung-pu during the Tien-Chung festival which was to be held on June 29th, 30th and July 1st. The native Yang was then removed to Wu-chang, and Mr. Lindström, whose place at Sung-pu had been taken by Mr. Johansson, went down to Hankow and saw the Consul a second time, urging him to renew the request for a proclamation, but the Consul told him that there was no need for one, since the native Yang had been recalled, so the Chinese had assured him, and had also told him that a proclamation would only excite the people, as it was not the foreigners they objected to, but to this native Yang. Mr. Wikholm had also three times in vain implored the magistrate of Ma-ch'eng to issue a proclamation, and when the petition was renewed the fourth time a promise to do so was given, which however, as the sequel proved was not made good. It is true that on June 26th the missionaries received a visit from the military mandarin stationed at Ma-ch'eng, and that it was suggested that they should retire to Ma-ch'eng or return to Wu-chang. The Chinese account of this visit given by the Ma-ch'eng hsien should be carefully compared with Mr. Wikholm's own letter to his friends written only four days before the murder. "Yesterday" Mr. Wikholm writes, "we had a visit from the military mandarin of Ma-ch'eng. As his visit was announced beforehand by visiting cards, we received him in our best, and tried to behave ourselves in accordance with Chinese etiquette as far as possible. First of all we were told he had come to pay us a formal call, of which honor we expressed ourselves to be unworthy. After a short talk upon unimportant matters, the conversation turned upon the question of our safety in residing in this place, and the mandarin suggested that we should return to Hankow, lest trouble should arise during the festival. But to this we replied that the people were perfectly friendly, and that if the four men who had threatened to make a disturbance were looked after, there would be no danger; and, moreover, as the Ma-ch'eng magistrate had promised to issue a proclamation and to protect us, we said, we would not leave. Another of the company thereupon suggested that we should retire to Ma-ch'eng, where he promised to prepare a house, and help us in every way we wished. For this we thanked him most heartily, but stated that we did not see this to be our duty. Seeing that we were determined to remain here, they promised to give us the help they could; and as measures are to be taken to secure our safety, we have very little fear of any danger. The four men (who threatened to kill us) are said to be held responsible for us. Much more could be said, but time fails me. Moreover I hope we will soon meet again. Pray for us!"

This letter clearly shows that the missionaries, on the day preceding the first day of the festival, thought themselves perfectly safe. But the military mandarin's promise of help as before stated, was never fulfilled. After the interview, he and his

retinue returned to Ma-ch'eng and the missionaries were left to their own resources. Amongst the men who had threatened to kill them, were the two already referred to, who took the lead in issuing placards, together with three more" Li-hai-yuen (李海源) Ho-shao tsing (郝少青) and Ho-tsi-po (郝子波) all from a group of three villages five miles from Sung-pu called Ta-yu-chai (大有寨) Chen-kia-chai (陳家寨) and Tien-sin-chu (天星區). Five days before the murder took place these men met together to feast in a place called Hwei-fung-hang (迴風巷) where the afore named Li-kia-chung, an ex-redbutton mandarin and friend of the Ma-ch'eng magistrate, presided, and where the attack on the missionaries, as is well known, was planned and organised in cold blood. The expenses of this feast were defrayed by Kü-tsi-ho, whom the magistrate at Ma-ch'eng, shortly after the murder, sent to Wu-chang to act as his deputy in the Viceroy's Yamên. Unfortunately the two missionaries did not know what had been decided upon at the feast, but trusted entirely in the promise of protection given by the magistrate and military mandarin of Ma-ch'eng. So without dreaming of the sad catastrophe so near at hand they stayed on. The first day of the festival passed without any trouble as also did the second when the procession came to Ho-kia-pu escorted by thousands of people. From their neighbour's door the missionaries, on that day, watched the procession with much interest, and since all seemed friendly no trouble was anticipated, as on the following day (1st. July) the procession would be confined to Sung-pu, and would not come round to Ho-kia-pu. But alas! at eight o'clock a. m. on the day of the murder Li-kia-chung's men arrived, and as it became known that they were going to kill the foreigners, large numbers of people came together to see how they would manage it. At ten o'clock the local mandarin at Sung-pu made his appearance on the scene and some people thought that he had come to protect the foreigners, There were thousands of people gathered together by this time and the crowd was getting excited. The mandarin, however, only remained and looked round for a few minutes, after which he returned to his Yamên. A cry was heard among the people that the foreigners were to be killed; stones and bricks were thrown against their house, the doors were battered in and the missionaries chased out of their house to take refuge with their neighbour Ho-lao-pu, where they stayed while some of their friends went to the before mentioned local mandarin and begged and petitioned him to give protection, but he refused on the ground that he had no such orders from his superior. Between 11 and 12 o'clock a second appeal was made to the same mandarin, but with the same result as before. The loan of some of the soldiers' coats was asked for in order that some of the Ho-kia-pu people might put in a show of protection, but even this was refused. At 12 o'clock the constable of the place (郝人和) came forward and tried to quiet the crowd; but, as his attitude towards the missionaries had been hostile from the day they arrived at the place, his position now as their defender appeared ridiculous in the eyes of the mob; so they gave him a blow on the head with a brick, and he retired to the foreigners, house bleeding. Mr. Wikholm was then called upon to wash and bind his wounds

which he did, and afterwards managed to get up into a dark garret in the neighbour's house, where he was joined by Mr. Johansson. Soon, however, their hiding place was discovered by four pugilists armed with iron-rods and other implements, who chased them out of the garret through the roof, where they at once were exposed to the mob, which by this time had grown terribly excited. The missionaries ran from house to house on the top of the roofs pursued by these four incarnate demons until they reached the twentieth house from their own. Here they had to leap down to the ground in the midst of the mob, where men hired for the purpose and already armed with stones, iron rods, iron hooked carrying poles, and other weapons of destruction, set upon them, and after a few minutes our friends were covered from head to foot with deadly wounds. The riot lasted from eight o'clock in the morning till two o'clock in the afternoon, and during all that time the magistrate made not the slightest effort to save the lives of these two defenceless men. Their mangled bodies were stripped of every thing they had on, and allowed to remain on the open street where they fell for three days. The men who committed the murder, as has been proved, were engaged for that purpose by Li-kia-chung and his party, none of whom have been punished to the present date, nor even brought into court. The statement which has been made by the magistrate of Ma-ch'eng that the missionaries had guards, and that these guards had bound four men, is an utter fabrication, for the men were not bound till after the missionaries had been killed, when the people of the Ho-kia-pu street did it, because, in burning the missionaries' house, these men had also set fire to that of Ho-lao-pu, one of the most respectable men in the street. The missionaries had no employees with the exception of one servant and two teachers, one of whom was severely beaten and barely escaped with his life. The others managing to hide themselves among the crowd and to return to Hankow.

The case was then taken up by Consul-General Bock who left all enquiries entirely in the hands of the Chinese officials. On the Chinese side the chief acting judge was the magistrate of Ma-ch'eng, who came to the conclusion from the first, that the missionaries were in the wrong and had themselves to blame for being killed, since they were obstinate and did not go away from the place. Consul-General Bock and the Viceroy fully agreed to this view of the case, hence no murderers have been punished or found, no ringleaders arrested, no officials called in question and no re-establishment of the mission granted. When Messrs Archibald and Lund begged the authorities for permission to go down to Sung-pu and recover the bodies of their murdered friends, who could dream that such a most sacred duty would be interfered with? But the Viceroy raised every objection that he could and delayed them in Hankow for two days. Then when the matter was pressed by the consuls, he said that they could go, if they liked to join his deputy Li-tao-tai, and a military mandarin from Hankow who were to leave for Sung-pu (Via Hwang-cheu) to hold an enquiry on the riot. So these two missionaries started, but found on arrival in Hwang-cheu that private orders had been issued to the effect that they were *not* to go to Sung-pu.

but should be detained in Hwang-cheu, till the bodies could be sent down, which Li-tao-tai said, would be in about five days. Seeing that they were thus deceived, and that to proceed to Sung-pu against such orders could only end in two more murders, the missionaries returned to Hankow, where they had to wait nine days from the day of the murder before the bodies were delivered, whereas they might easily have been delivered in twenty-four hours. The murdered men had been lying stark naked where they fell from the first to the fourth of July, when the Ma-ch'eng magistrate had them wrapped up in the coarsest cotton cloth and put into Chinese coffins, for which he has never even paid. On the arrival of the bodies at Hankow, the Consul ordered an inquest.

According to the Coroner's detailed report, Mr. Wikholm's body had six mortal, and forty-nine lesser wounds, and Mr. Johansson's body six mortal and nineteen lesser wounds, inflicted with various weapons of destruction, and yet the authorities have been able to discover only three insignificant persons as concerned in the outrage, and these guilty only of trifling assaults. In fact none of the murderers have been arrested, nor could they be, for they only carried out the wish of the officials. But the men who received the missionaries, who rented them a house, who helped to establish them, who rendered them any service, or who refrained from opposing them, these, as all the people of Sung-pu know, have all received several hundreds of blows, been questioned on the rack, suspended by cords, made to kneel on chains and to inhale burning incense ; and all this because they were friendly towards the foreigners, and unwilling to support by their testimony, the false and immoral stories charged against them. One of those men was so violently beaten that he died in the hands of his persecutors, upon which the magistrate of Ma-ch'eng gave twelve dollars to his relatives and ordered them to bury him. According to this magistrate these are the only guilty persons, for had they been as much opposed to the foreigners as were the murderers, then the missionaries would not have been able to gain a footing in Sung-pu and the murder could never have taken place.

When Li-tao-tai, the Viceroy's deputy, arrived at Sung-pu, more than a hundred innocent men were arrested, but only those who could not pay the full amount of money demanded, about sixty in all, were punished. The Chinese officials are right in ascribing the murder to the people outside of Sung-pu and Ho-kia-pu, who could have no serious objection to the missionaries, and yet up to the present date only the Ho-kia-pu and the Sung-pu people have been punished. Ho-lao-pu, the missionaries' nearest neighbour who, on the day of the murder, tried to conceal them in his house, has himself been obliged to flee to the Province of Si-chuan to escape punishment, while his family has been ruined, and his property confiscated. Like calamities have also befallen the landlord Ho-fang-kuen who permitted his house to be let to the missionaries, and it is well known by all the people in Sung-pu and the district, that the officials intend building a large Kung-kuan, and a temple on the property of these two men. Ho-yün-fong (郝永豐), the missionaries' water carrier, Ho-kuang-ting (郝光鼎) who

subletted the house, Ho-si-keo (郝四狗) and Ho-hwei-chû (郝輝珠) middlemen, who were unable to escape, have been tortured and kept in a pitiable and almost dying condition in Hwang-cheu jail ever since the murder took place, and for all that is known by foreigners, are still there. When Messrs Archibald and Lund visited them in the prison on Oct. the seventh they found them covered with wounds and bruises and so weak that they were unable to stand, and yet nominally they had only been arrested as witnesses and had been accused of no crime. The only men said by the officials to have taken part in the riot are Li-kao-pa (李糕粑) Shü-tsien-fu (徐全福) Li-kin-keo (李金狗); and it should be noticed that while these confess their complicity in the crime, their confession has been extorted. Being asked by Messrs Archibald and Lund, if they had killed the two foreigners, they said "No", they had not. The mandarin named Liu (劉) who was present, thereupon gave one of them a severe shaking, saying: "Did you not confess long ago that you had killed the foreigners?" — "Yes", was the reply. Messrs Archibald and Lund then asked. "Has any one accused you?" —"No"; but, after a second shaking from the mandarin, they said: "Every body accuses us". The foreigners further enquired, "but has any one in particular accused you?" The prisoners answered "no". Turning to the mandarin Mr. Archibald remarked: "Is it customary in China to condemn men without an accusation against them?" — The mandarin saw the point and that same evening, as is shown from the officials' dispatches, three men were found to bear witness that the above named had murdered the missionaries. It is impossible to avoid the belief that these three men are perfectly innocent, for, although the murder took place in broad daylight in the presence of thousands of people, no accusers were found nor even sought for during the several months the prisoners were being beaten and tortured. When Messrs Archibald and Lund saw them they were reduced to such a condition of weakness that they were unable to stand, and had to be lifted by soldiers. The four men whom the Ho-kia-pu people caught and escorted to the local magistrate for burning Ho-lao-pa's house, together with the constable referred to above and another named Li-fu (李福), who stole some of the missionaries' things, have been treated as sufferers in the riot, and though nominally kept as prisoners, none of them have been beaten. On the contrary they have enjoyed great liberty and been granted an allowance of twenty cents per day.

When it was rumoured that two foreigners were coming to Sung-pu to recover the bodies, Li-kia-chung the instigator of the murder, in the presence of the magistrate of Ma-ch'eng, gathered his men, beat a gong and boldly announced that he was going to fight any foreigners who ventured to approach the place. This man was afterwards also taken to Hwang-cheu and nominally kept a prisoner, because, as official despatches state, it was the wish of the foreigners, but in reality he was not a prisoner at all, being allowed to live in a large official Kung-kuan, where he enjoyed every liberty. He returned to his home about three months ago, and his friend Kung-miao-tsi (孔猫子), who had been arrested at the instigation of the Governor was

allowed to escape by the officials and has not yet been re-arrested.

We send herewith a number of official despatches bearing on the case, one or two of which demand very special attention. First, that of the Viceroy in which he rebukes his underlings at Hwang-cheu for receiving Messrs Archibald and Lund in a friendly manner, and secondly, those of the Fu-tai and Nie-tai in which they denounce Li-kia-chung and Kung-miao-tsi as guilty, and express their doubts regarding the treatment of the whole case, particularly the story of the constable's beating and the binding of the four men said to have been done by the missionaries. They (the Fu-tai and Nie-tai) also suggest that a new trial should be held conjointly with foreign officials.

In spite of the unjust dealings of the Chinese officials as shown above, Consul-General Bock has settled the case, (1st.) without any investigation on the spot into the conduct either of the Chinese or the missionaries, although he had, at the outset, telegraphic orders from Stockholm to do so.

(2nd.) Without any guarantee that the real murderers have been or will be punished.

(3rd.) Without even having called in question the action of the local and other authorities, who, in neglecting to do their duty, allowed the murder to be committed.

(4th.) Without any re-establishment of the mission at Sung-pu beyond the bare words of the Viceroy that he would see to it later on, provided the people should become quieted, which practically means nothing. The promise of forty thousand dollars for the lives of the missionaries, and five thousand extra for expenses, if it should be paid, are really the sole terms on which the atrocious murder has been settled. It is greatly to be deplored that blood-money should be demanded at all, and in all probability those who should receive it, when they hear that this money has been exacted from innocent and friendly people and from those who helped and tried to protect their murdered friends, will decline altogether to accept it.

The settlement of this case does not merely affect the Swedish mission, it strikes a fatal blow against all foreigners in Central China, and especially against those in the province of Hu-peh. Over eighty missionaries of various nationalities are at present, (on account of this unsatisfactory settlement,) shut up in the treaty port of Hankow, and the Viceroy refuses his consent to their going any where in his jurisdiction, as the following facts clearly show.

Some American missionaries at the beginning of last year bought a small property in the city of Fan-cheng and were living in entire harmony both with the local officials and with the people. While they were in the midst of building a house suddenly orders were issued from the Viceroy that the work should be stopped, and

immediately their middlemen were arrested (one of whom is still in prison) and the workmen were ordered to desist. When the missionaries went to the yamên and asked the reason why they should receive such treatment, the local mandarin, who was a kind and upright man, told them that the question did not rest with h'm, and advised the missionaries to go back to Hankow and put the case straight with the Viceroy through their Consul, then as far as he was concerned every thing would be smooth, for them in Fan-cheng. The missionaries therefore went down to Hankow and handed the case over to the Consul, who took it up, but for nine months he could not even get an answer from the Viceroy. Now at last he has replied to the effect that the missionaries may on no account return to Fan-cheng. Other missionaries (also American) opened a small chapel in the city of Wu-chang on their own premises which were bought fourteen years ago, but no sooner had they begun to preach than the former owner was arrested and beaten, and could only escape further torture on condition that the preaching hall should be closed. So the missionaries for his sake gave up preaching and rented a house near the East gate where they started mission work; but news has just come to hand that the small mandarin in charge of the street, has received orders to have the chapel shut up, and that the landlord will be arrested and punished unless he can induce the missionaries to give up their claim to his property. Another missionary rented a house in Hwang-cheu-fu, 50 miles from Hankow, in the Spring of last year and lived in it for some days, after which he was driven out by Yamên runners, and his landlord taken to the Yamên, where he was severely beaten. The missionary is threatened with death should he venture to return.

To the English missionaries similar opposition have been shown. Several places where they have had mission stations for many years have been closed, and cannot even be visited with safety by foreigners. The London mission some time ago had an offer of a property in the city of Hwang-pi, twenty miles from Hankow, but since the murder at Sung-pu the landlord has informed the mission that the property cannot be bought at any price, as the will of the Viceroy is interpreted to be against missionaries, and that natives are strictly forbidden to sell them property or assist them in any way. The riot at Mien Yang shows that the same oppositin extends to Roman Catholic missions, and it would not he surprising in view of the present condition of affairs, to hear at any time of fresh outbreaks in any part of the Hu-peh province.

We entirely agree with the following statement of the Rev. Griffith John DD: "If something is not done, if the right thing is not done, and that *speedily*, these deeds of violence, which have so conspicuously marked the reign of Chang-chi-tung in Central China will go on, and the day is not far distant when even travelling, to say nothing of residing in the interior of this Province, will become an impossibility to foreigners. This is a matter which concerns all the Powers. In the name of our Common Humanity as well as for the sake of our Common Interests we call upon them to combine their influence and bring the existing humiliating and perilous state of things to a close".

Any satisfactory settlement of the case should, we think, include the five following points:

1st. The punishment of the men who planned and executed the cruel murders.

2° The removal of the magistrates and officials whose gross neglect and secret connivance made the murders possible.

3° The re-establishment of the Mission at Sung-pu.

4° That directions be given to the officials of the province to afford efficient protection to the missionaries, their employees, and to native christians whether resident in the treaty ports or in the interior.

5° Above all, the indemnification and the reinstalment in their houses of the natives, who on account of their friendliness to the murdered men have suffered so grievously and so unjustly in beatings, imprisonments, and fines, and to secure reparation for whom, so far as it now can be made, is our chief object in coming to Peking.

Praying that this appeal may receive your prompt and earnest attention,

We have the honour to be

YOUR EXCELLENCIES' HUMBLE AND OBEDIENT SERVANTS,

F. EDW. LUND.

K. F. LINDSTRÖM.

Peking.
January 24th 1894

Enclosure 2 in No. 1803

Mr. Denby to Revs. J. Edw. Lund and K. J. Lindstrom.

Mis. No 4/1894 February 1st, 1894.

Gentlemen:

The foreign representatives have requested the undersigned, as dean of the diplomatic corps, to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of Jan. 24th 1894, and to send the following answer thereto.

You therein "solicit the exertion "of your (the foreign representatives) "official influence with the "Chinese authorities to secure "an equitable settlement of the "case" regarding the murder of your colleagues Messrs Ekholm and Johansson at Sungpu.

Under date of Dec. 28th 1893, the Minister of the United States received from Mr. Bock, consul-general of Sweden and Norway,

information

information that the above mentioned case had been settled. The terms of settlement were as follows:

Two men were to be strangled to death;

Two men were to receive one hundred blows, to be chained to an iron pointed staff attached to a stone weight and to wear it five years, and to be branded on the face with two characters rob and snatch;

Five men were to be bamboo'd eighty blows and to be cangued one month;

After twenty months, Swedish missionaries were to be allowed to go to Sungpu provided it should be safe to do so;

Hankow taels 32.000 were to be paid, of which 10.000 were to go to each of the families of the murdered men and 12.000 for loss of furniture,

books

books, clothes etc.

The diplomatic corps greatly sympathizes with the general purport of the communication under acknowledgement, but it does not see its way clear to disregard or attempt to set aside the settlement already made by the duly authorized agent of the government of Sweden and Norway and to undertake to make a new settlement - This only so far as the interests of foreigners in the general are involved that the diplomatic corps can take cognizance of the subject matter of your letter.

It has, therefore, concluded to address the Tsungli Yamên on the question of affording due protection to missionaries, their employees and native Christians in the province of Hupeh. The diplomatic corps

will

will also use its influence to secure for the natives who have suffered on account of their friendliness to the murdered men relief from their sufferings.

I am etc.,

(Sgd) Charles Denby.

Enclosure 3 in No 1803.

Petition of Foreign Residents at Hankow to the Foreign Representatives at Peking.

Hankow, January 2nd, 1894.

May it please Your Excellencies:
We the undersigned residing in the district of Hankow regard with much apprehension the fact that, although six months have now passed since the deplorable Sungpu massacre, there has been no adequate enquiry made with regard to it; nor, as far as can be ascertained, have the guilty been brought to justice.

We are strongly of opinion that a thorough inquiry into this case would not only throw a flood of light on the long series of anti-foreign outrages from which so many have suffered during recent

years

years, but also greatly help to bring them to an end; while, on the other hand, should the matter be allowed to drop without justice being done, we have much reason to fear the disturbances will continue.

We are also exceedingly grieved to know that a number of innocent natives have been made to suffer so seriously in connection with this case. Many of them have been driven from their homes, and have lost all they possessed through no fault of their, but simply and solely because they happened to be associated with foreigners at that place. We feel assured that the righting of their wrongs would do much to prevent the like from happening another time, and we desire by this petition to show our sympathy with

them

them, and how earnestly we hope that a party, which has recently left for Peking to lay their case before the higher authorities, may meet with success.

We do not presume to dictate to Your Excellencies in any way, but respectfully venture to bring these matters to your notice in the hope that, through the deep interest you take in all that concerns the mutual welfare of foreigner and natives, and the powerful influence you can bring to bear, it may be possible to have something done.

We have the honor to be
Your Excellencies most obedient
humble servants,
(Sig'd) J. R. Graves,
and fifty others.

Their Excellencies
The Envoys Extraordinary and
Ministers Plenipotentiary
to the Court of Peking.

Enclosure 4 in No 1803

Mr. Denby to Mr. Child.

No 176. Feb. 1st 1894.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your despatch No 12, of the 8th ultimo, enclosing a petition signed by the residents of Hankow, and addressed to the diplomatic corps, relating to the murders at Sungpu and matters connected therewith.

The diplomatic corps has taken action thereon and has instructed me to send to the signers of the petition, through you, the following answer.

The diplomatic corps greatly sympathizes with the general purport of the communication under acknowledgement. It cannot fail, however, to recognize the fact that the government

especially

especially affected by the murders has, through its proper representative in China, come to a settlement of the matters therein involved, with the viceroy Chang Chih-tung.

The diplomatic body does not see its way clear to disregard or attempt to set aside that settlement and undertake to make a new settlement. Such action would be an encroachment on the sovereign rights of the government in question.

It is only so far as the interests of foreigners in the general are involved that the diplomatic body can take cognizance of the subject matter of the petition. It has, therefore, concluded to address the Tsungli Yamên on the question of affording due protection to missionaries, their employees and native Christians

in

in the province of Hupeh.

The diplomatic body will also use its influence to secure for the natives who have suffered on account of their friendliness to the murdered men relief from their sufferings.

I am etc.,

(Sig'd) Charles Denby.

Enclosure 5 in No 1803

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamen.

No 7. February 2nd 1894.

During the past few months the Minister of the United States, as Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, has had occasion to communicate with the Prince and Ministers with reference to the murder of the two Swedish missionaries at Sungpu.

The views of the Foreign Representatives as to this case have been clearly stated.

It is understood that a settlement of this unhappy affair, so far as the Government of Sweden and Norway is particularly interested therein, has been arrived at by the Chinese authorities and the accredited agent of the United Kingdom. The Foreign Representatives do not feel called on to discuss

the

the terms of this settlement. They desire, however, to present some considerations which in their bearing affect the welfare of all foreigners in China. The dreadful crime committed against two inoffensive men has awakened in the minds of foreigners resident in the province of Hupeh, and elsewhere in China, fear of renewed outrages, and doubts as to the good faith of the local authorities as to affording protection to foreigners.

It has been repeatedly urged upon the Prince and Ministers that the hostility of the populace, when once aroused by designing men, makes no distinction of nationalities. Anti-foreign sentiment in China is directed against all foreigners alike. A successful attack

against

against missionaries of one nationality or in one locality tends to inspire in ill-disposed persons attacks on missionaries of whatever nationality in other localities.

Should it happen, moreover, that no steps are, in any given case, taken by the authorities to prevent the consummation of crimes known to be meditated against foreigners of any nationality at any place in China, such attitude would directly tend to instigate crimes against foreigners in all places. Likewise insufficient punishment inflicted for one murder is a direct encouragement to those who plan other. Instigators of riots are not ignorant of how to use such incidents to promote their base purposes.

In view of these facts, the Foreign Representatives feel it to

be

be their duty to urge most emphatically upon the Prince and Ministers the necessity for the exercise of increased zeal and earnestness on the part of the officials of the province of Hupeh in the protection of foreigner in general, their employees and native Christians. It is believed that it only rests with the officials themselves to make the life of every foreigner safe and to prevent such anti-foreign outbreaks as have occurred during the last three years. Protection to foreigner in China is guaranteed by the treaties and safeguarded by the imperious decree of His Majesty the Emperor, of June 13th 1891.

In this connection we have to state that this celebrated decree has not received evidently all the publicity that is desirable,

and

and we demand that it be
posted anew in public places
in the provinces bordering on the
Yangtze. The civilized world
demands: that the obligation
of protection be fulfilled and it
will not submit to its being
ignored directly or by indirection.

5 The Foreign Representatives
desire, also, to call the attention
of the Prince and Ministers to
the deplorable condition of three
native Chinese, formerly living
at Sungpu, who have been
deprived of their property, driven
from their homes, imprisoned,
beaten and otherwise maltreated,
for no cause except that they
rendered service or did acts of
friendliness to the two unfortunate
Swedes. Such treatment of innocent
persons is antagonistic to the
letter and spirit of the treaties
and shocks the conscience of the
world.

The

The Foreign Representatives unanimously and most earnestly request that the Prince and Ministers will procure that these outcasts may be allowed to return to their homes, and will cause to be restored to them their houses and goods of which they have been most unjustly deprived. Such an act of justice would be honorable to the Government of China and would receive the commendation and approval of all right-minded men in China and elsewhere.

The Minister of the United States avails etc. etc. etc.

Dip

Rec'd No. 6

No. 1804.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 26 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 6th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 26 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Officers of this Legation, whence appointed etc.

One enclosure.

No 1804.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 6th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to return, herewith, duly filled out, the form dated "Department of State Dec. 1st 1893", calling for certain information as to the officers of this Legation.

1804

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Form as above.

OK

Department of State,
Washington, December 1, 1893.

The information called for in the following table is to be furnished by the principal officer of the Legation, Consulate or Commercial Agency and should include that relating to the subordinate officers and Consular Agents, respectively.

It is desirable to have it returned to the Department of State at an early date.

Name in full	Rank	Place of Office	State or country where born	State or country whence appointed	Citizen of the United States or alien
Charles Denby	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary	Peking China	Virginia	Indiana	Citizen
Charles Denby Jr.	Secretary of Legation	Peking China	Indiana	Indiana	Citizen
Fleming Duncan Chesire	Interpreter	Peking China	New York	~~Peking~~ China	Citizen

Charles Denby
Minister

Desp. from Peking

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 26 1894

No. 1805.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 6th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 26 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Action of the Electrical Congress

Synopsis

The action of the International Electrical Congress communicated to China. Copy of despatch and reply enclosed.

Two enclosures.

No 1805.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 6th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

On the 9th day of last January, I received your despatch No 833, of November 20th last, wherein you directed me to send to the Government of China copies of a brief résumé of the action of the International Electrical Congress held at Chicago in August 1893, in the matter of the units

units of electrical measure, and to ask it to take the necessary measures to adopt the recommendations of the Congress upon the subject.

I enclose a copy of my despatch to the Tsungli Yamên to the above effect and a translation of their answer.

1/1805

2/1805

China is not sufficiently advanced in electrical science to take any interest in, or even to understand, the proceedings of the Congress.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên Jan. 10. 1894.
2. Reply to above Feb. 2nd 1894.

Enclosure 1 in No 1805

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamen.

Informal. Jan. 10. 1894.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I have the
honor to inform you that I
have been directed by my
Government to transmit to
you the enclosed copy of a
brief resumé of the action of
the International Electrical Congress
held in Chicago during Aug.
1893, in the matter of the
units of electrical measure.

I am also directed to ask
that China will take the
necessary measures to adopt
the recommendations of the
Congress on the subject.

I have etc etc
(Sig'd) Charles Denby.

Enclosure 2 in No 1805.

Mr. Denby from the Tsungli Yamen.

No.

February 2nd 1894.

Your Excellency:

The Ministers had the honor (on the 10th of January last) to receive a note from the Minister of the United States enclosing a copy of a brief resumé of the action of the International Electrical Congress held at Chicago, which document he had received from the Honorable Secretary of State; and requested that China would adopt the recommendations of the Congress on the subject.

The Yamen has duly perused the paper sent, and, having placed same on file, now sends this note in reply for the information of the Minister of the United States.

Cards

Cards of Ministers with
compliments.

bip

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File.
MAR 27 1894
aaa

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 27 1894

No 1806.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 7th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
MAR 26 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Rivalry between cables and Chinese lines.

Synopsis

Progress of Chinese lines - their advantages - new improvements thereon

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No 1806.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 7th 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

A war between the two Cable Companies — the Great Northern and the Eastern Extension — and the Chinese Telegraph Administration is being carried on in China.

The cable companies procured the Russo-Chinese Convention to be made, believing that they would

do

do all the business of the ports, but the Chinese telegraph lines have proved a strong competitor for the traffic and it is now plain that the cable companies played into the hands of their rivals.

The Chinese lines are doing most of the business from the interior and a great deal of that from the ports. Messages handed in at the Chinese office at Shanghai for Europe go direct to the frontier station at Kiakhta, where they are retransmitted to Blagovestchensk, whence they are sent with only two retransmissions to Europe.

a

A message sent over the cables goes first to Nagasaki, whence it is retransmitted to Vladivostock, is again transmitted to Habaroffa, whence it is sent to Blagouestchenisk. It thus suffers three distinct retransmissions before it reaches the point through which the Chinese message passes. Time is, therefore, gained by the use of the Chinese lines and risk of mutilation at the hands of Russian operators avoided.

The Chinese Administration is, at present, engaged in duplicating its cable connections and several portions of its

land

land lines. It is laying an additional cable across the Yangtze at Chinkiang. The Duplex system is in successful operation on the Yangtze lines and Wheatstone's automatic instruments are to be introduced this month.

Altogether, it may safely be predicted that the Chinese lines will prove dangerous rivals to the cable companies.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Dip

DIPLOMATIC BU... MAR 27 1894

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY. Mr. Rennick may print. Act accordingly - MAR 27 1894

No 1897.

Dec C

28 mar

REPORT FI... Bureau of Statistics FOR PUBLICATION.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 8th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE MAR 26 1894 RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Silk culture in Shantung

Synopsis

A copy of the report of the Commissioner of Customs thereon.

One enclosure.

No 1807.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 8th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In his report for the decade ending 1891, the Commissioner of Customs at Chefoo makes some remarks on silk culture, which may prove of interest to American cultivators.

I enclose, herewith, a cutting from the Shanghai Mercury which is a reprint of his

1807

observations

observations.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Cutting fr. Shanghai Mercury

of reprint fr. "Decennial Reports".

Dip

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 9th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 7 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby Jr. to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Accounts – salary and exchange.

Two enclosures.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 9th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to

enclose, herewith, my accounts

2 for salary and gain by

exchange for the part of last

quarter from October 26th to

December 31st inclusive, being

from the date of my oath of

office as Secretary of Legation

to the end of the quarter.

)

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient, servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Secretary of Legation

Enclosures:

Accounts

T.M.

Dip
Inclosure 1 in No 1808.
April 9.

No 1808.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 7 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 12th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 7 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The importation of machinery

Synopsis
Propositions of the Yamên
disallowed by the foreign
representatives.

Two enclosures.

No. 1808.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 12th, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a translation of a communication, recently received from the Tungli Yamên, relating to the importation of machinery into China, together with a copy of my answer thereto.

1808

1808

Identic notes were sent by each of the foreign representatives.

The

The proportions of the Yamên, to allow no machinery to be imported except on certificate issued by certain local authorities, and to prohibit the introduction of all machinery which may be held to be injurious to the common people, are not acquiesced in by the foreign representatives.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby
   No 5 Jan. 23d '94.
2. Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên
   No 8 Feb. 12th '94.

Enclosure 1 in No 1808.

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby.

No 5. January 23rd 1894.

With regard to the question of the importation by foreigners of machinery into China, the Prince and Ministers have the honor to state that it has been the subject of frequent discussions between the Yamên and the Minister of the United States, and, being anxious that nothing should mar the friendly relations existing between China and the United States, the Yamên has decided upon the following regulation in the hope that it may be continued in force for a long time:

Since the advent of commercial relations under the treaties between China and foreign powers, foreign machinery has daily

and

and monthly increased in new designs and inventions, and it is difficult for the Chinese as well as foreigner to determine beforehand what new designs may be manufactured.

It is now propored that machinery purchased by the Chinese Government and by foreign merchants for Chinese shall be permitted to be imported, but a certificate must be obtained in accordance with the rule laid down.

Machinery bought by foreign merchants of the class that does not interfere with the means of livlihood of the common people shall be allowed to be imported, and a duty of five per cent ad valorem shall be paid as on unenumerated articles. But machinery bought by foreign merchants of the class that proves detrimental to the means

of living of the common people and unenumerated in the tariff shall not be allowed to be imported.

The administration of government affairs as well as the customs of the people are not the same in China as in foreign countries. Additions are constantly being made in the manufacture and designs of machinery and China must consider the welfare of her common people. In this she must clearly state that she has the right of exercising independent authority in order that there may be no misunderstanding and good relations may continue.

The Yamên has addressed the Ministers Superintendent of Northern and Southern Trade and the Inspector General of Customs on the subject for their information, and in addressing the Minister

of the United States, the Prince and Minister expresses the hope that he will instruct the United States consuls at the various ports to make this regulation known to American merchants.

A necessary communication addressed to H. Exc.

Charles Denby

etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure 2 in No 1808

Mr. Denby to the Tungli Yamên.

No 8. February 12th 1894.

The Minister of the United States has had the honor to receive a note which Your Highness and Your Excellencies addressed to him, on the 23rd of January last, respecting the importation of machinery into China.

In reply he has to say that whereas this question forms, at the present moment, the subject of negotiations and correspondence between the Tungli Yamên and the Minister of the United States representing the foreign representatives signers of the previous notes, it would be contrary both to usage and courtesy to divert it from its regular channel.

The Minister of the United

States

States is, therefore, unable to take the note into consideration or to give orders to the Consuls of the United States in the sense desired by Your Highness and Your Excellencies.

The Minister of the United States avails etc., etc., etc.

Dip
acdg to file.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 7 1894

No 1809.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 7 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 13th 1894

— Wm Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Honors conferred by His Majesty the Emperor on Chinese officials in honor of the coming 60th anniversary of the birthday of the Empress Dowager in November next.

— Synopsis —

Gives the names of some of the recipients of Imperial favor.

No 1809

Legation of the United States
Peking, February 13th 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

In honor of the felicitous occasion of the coming 60th anniversary of the birthday of the Empress Dowager, in November next, many marks of distinction have been bestowed by Imperial decree issued on the 5th instant (China New Year day) to a host of officials in the employ of the central and Provincial Governments.

I

I may mention the names of some of the officials who are prominent figures in connection with foreign affairs in this country who have received honors.

Prince Kung, President of the Tsung li Yamen has received the Imperial title of Nobility of Prince of the first order.

His gentleman was a Prince of the third order when he was appointed President of the Tsung li Yamen in May 1884. On the celebration of the Empress Dowagers 50th anniversary of her birthday he received the patent of Prince of the second order. Like most of the nobles his duties, previous to joining the Tsung li Yamen were

was connected with the Court,
attending to religious worship, &c.
He is at present also one of
the Grand Chamberlains or Ministers
of the Palace.

The mark of honor now
conferred upon him, is no doubt,
in a measure, in recognition
of the impartial and able
manner with which he has
conducted the onerous duties
of the Tsungli Yamun. He is
a man much respected and
has endeared himself to almost
every foreign official with
whom he has come in contact.

Li Hung-chang, Earl, Premier
Grand Secretary, Viceroy of Chihli,
the Metropolitan Province, and
Minister

Minister Superintendent of
Northern Trade, has had
conferred upon him "the Three
Eyed Peacocks Feather," - a distinction
generally bestowed upon Princes
and Nobles of the Imperial
Blood of the higher degrees, or
for the most signal military
achievements - The Viceroy has
been the recipient during the
past few years of almost every
honor that could be bestowed on
a Chinese statesman. The last
honor - it one eagerly sought but
rarely obtained. As an additional
mark of Imperial favor, the
Viceroy's son, Li Ching-mai, has
received the position of Second
Class Assistant Secretary of a Board.

This

This young man speaks English fluently, having been taught by Mr. W. A. Pethick Vice Consul at Tientsin and Mr. C. D. Tenny at present acting Interpreter to our Consulate at Tientsin.

The name of the former Chinese Minister at Washington, Chang Yin-huan, now Minister of the Tsung li Yamen and Senior Vice President of the Board of Revenue, is submitted to the Board concerned for the determination of a liberal form of reward.

Li Han-chang, brother of the Grand Secretary Li Hung-chang and Viceroy at Canton, receives the title (nominal) of Junior

Guardianship

Guardianship of the Heir-Apparent.
The same title is also conferred
on Hü Yung-i and Liao Chou-
heng, both Ministers of the Tsung
li Yamên. This title carries with
it a certain distinction and
is one of the six honorary titles
that correspond to the titles
of the six highest Ministers of
State of Antiquity.

Tu Kin, assistant Grand
Secretary, and Minister of the Tsung
li Yamên, receives the "Two Eyed
Peacock's Feather."

Chung li, Senior Vice President
of the Board of Revenue, and
Minister of the Tsung li Yamen,
has had conferred on him the
Yellow Riding Jacket. This is the

most

most coveted distinction as a reward for military services, although but one form of the privileged style of dress. This form of distinction has been conferred on two foreigners, Lieut Col Gordon R. E. for services rendered in the Taiping rebellion and M Prosper Giquel for his labors in establishing the Foochow Arsenal, and for previous military services.

The name of Shangshih-tung, the present Viceroy of the Two Kiu provinces, i.e. Kuyeh and Kiangsi, has been referred to the proper Board for the determination of exceptional marks of honor. This officer was formerly Viceroy at Canton.

Lin Tsun-i

Lin Tsun-i, who has held many
posts of distinction and at
present living at Nanking, in
charge of Five provinces bordering
on the Yangtzi river, namely -
Kiangsu, Kiangsi and Anhui,
and Imperial Superintendent
of Southern Trade, is the recipient
of the "Two Eyed Peacock Feather" -
a distinction generally conferred
upon dignitaries of intermediate
rank, or degree of merit.

It would cover many pages
to Enumerate the names of all
the noble and high and low
officials of state who have received
honorary marks of distinction by
request of the Empress Dowager. In
fact nearly every prominent
officer

officers in China, as well as many of minor rank have been the recipients of Imperial favor, and especially those of the military service have had honors conferred on them of a martial character.

I may also mention that the mother of the Emperor, sister of the Empress Dowager and wife of the late Prince Chun receives an extra annual allowance of taels 3.000.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant.
Charles Denby.

No 1810.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 7 1894

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 13th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 7 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The Sungpu murders.

Synopsis
Editorial from North China
Daily News enclosed.

One enclosure.

No 1810.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 13th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a clipping from the North China Daily News, of the 24th ultimo, relating to the despatches on the subject of the Sungpan murders which were sent by me, as dean, to the Tsungli Yamên.

It is presumed that the copies which were published

were

were sent to the newspaper by the two Swedish missionaries who are now at Peking. It is not the practice of the diplomatic corps to furnish any copy of official despatches for publication. It is believed, however, that, in this particular case, a wide-spread circulation of the papers in question will do good.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

Leading article from the North China Daily News of Jan. 24th last.

Enclosure in No 1810.

The
North-China Daily News.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, 24TH JANUARY, 1894.

WE are very glad to be able to lay before our readers, in another column, the complete text of the first two despatches sent by the *Doyen* of the Diplomatic Body at Peking, Col. Denby, to the Tsungli Yamên on the subject of the Sungpu massacre, with the Yamên's replies. The gist of the first despatch was communicated to us some time since by the late Mr. John Macgregor, and we know that the Foreign Ministers had demanded "the exemplary punishment of all the officials, high and low, who failed to obey the Imperial Decree (of 13th June, 1891), and who by their culpable negligence have permitted this atrocious crime to be committed. They demand also, just and severe punishment of the ringleaders of the mob, and of those who organised it, although not actively participating in it;" but it is only now that we have the full text of the Tsungli Yamên's answer to this spirited despatch. Unfortunately we are obliged, much against our will, in considering these documents to refer once more to Consul-General Bock, and we fear the conclusion cannot be avoided that the qualified approval expressed of his action on his second visit to Hankow was somewhat premature.

The reply of the Yamên, dated the 14th of August last, consists chiefly of a recapitulation of a long and most untrustworthy telegram from the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, in which all the blame for the outbreak at Sungpu is thrown on the murdered missionaries. The reason for their murder, according to the Viceroy's story, was that some villagers who were passing the door of their house desired, out of the innocent curiosity of their hearts, to enter and see the place, "when the missionaries called the guard whom they had employed, who seized four men, bound them, and took them out of the back entrance, and by a roundabout way escorted them to the city." The villagers thought they were dead, and so stoned the missionaries to death. It is repeated that the missionaries had been warned to come away from Sungpu, but voluntarily chose to follow in the path of danger. "The action taken by the officials of Hupeh, high and low, in this matter has been befitting and proper. Mr. Consul-General Bock is familiar with the circumstances of the case, hence there is no need to go into any discussion about it here." Here we have the reflection of Mr. Bock's promise to the Viceroy that he would not send the case to Peking; and we find the Yamên calmly telling Colonel Denby, who had asked for the exemplary punishment of all the officials implicated, high and low, that "the action taken by the officials of Hupeh, high and low, in this matter has been befitting and proper."

Every foreigner in China must feel grateful to Colonel Denby and his colleagues for the reply made to this important despatch. It is manly, complete, and convincing. The Ministers do not accept for a moment the story of the armed guard employed by the missionaries whose action provoked the massacre. The riot lasted several hours, during which no attempt was made to stop it. The Ministers see with surprise and regret the statement that in "this revolting case" the action of the officials was befitting and proper. "If the highest authority in China can deliberately applaud the conduct of officials who did not raise a hand to prevent the murder of two foreigners, then the only hope of protection remaining for the foreigners, in spite of the Imperial Edict, is to protect themselves. We shall feel it to be our duty to inform our respective governments so. We brush aside as irrelevant the various excuses brought forward to screen guilty officials." Then Colonel Denby makes the point which we have ourselves urged, that the officials have not exhausted their duty when they have warned foreigners to leave a supposedly dangerous locality. Their duty is to protect, and "if they can escape the performance of this duty by simply advising foreigners to leave, it is to be apprehended that few, if any, foreigners would be suffered to remain anywhere outside the treaty ports." Attention is then drawn to the fact that while riots against the government are put down promptly enough, the same energy is not shown with riots against foreigners. "It is difficult to avoid the belief that these oft-recurring riots are not reprehended by the officials, but are on the other hand encouraged." It is pointed out, too, that it is in the provinces under Chang Chih-tung's control that almost incessant attacks on foreigners take place. "Why is this?" ask the Ministers. Our answer would be—the Yamen does not attempt to answer—because Chang Chih-tung is thoroughly anti-foreign, and because he was allowed to evade the demand for the punishment of Chou Han.

Colonel Denby then deals with the suggestion that Mr. Bock was satisfied, and therefore the Foreign Ministers had nothing more to say. He says: "The Foreign Representatives have no desire to intrude on the particular sphere of

duty of Consul-General Bock," but the anti-foreign riots are not directed against any particular nationality, but all foreigners alike are interested in their prevention. Unless they are punished when they occur, there will be no adequate safety for foreigners in China, and in urging this, the Ministers are acting in the interest of China as well as that of their own nations. Finally: "The Foreign Representatives renew their demand that the officials who failed to do their duty at Sungpu, and the ringleaders of the mob, be severely punished." The answer of the Yamên to this despatch is typically Chinese. The telegram from Chang Chih-tung was only sent in to the Foreign Ministers for their information; the Yamên did not applaud the officials concerned. China always does, and now will, determine justly who merited punishment in the matter, and what the punishment shall be. The Yamên thoroughly agrees with the Ministers that unless punishment is meted out to the guilty, a bad precedent is created. In fact, the Viceroy of Hukuang has again been urged to punish the guilty. As to the missionaries' guards, these men have themselves confessed to being so employed. The local officials at Sungpu were actuated by a kind motive when they requested the missionaries to leave, and the obstinate refusal of the latter caused "the unexpected affair, which is certainly to be deplored. . . As to the expression regarding the officials encouraging the rioters, this would appear to be closely approaching to an unwarranted accusation." Finally, all necessary instructions have been sent to the Viceroy, who "has not screened the guilty or given them improper protection."

Here our history of the case ends for the present. The Yamên obviously does not appreciate the seriousness of the matter, and it does not care or does not dare to bring Chang Chih-tung to book. It relies on Mr. Bock's being satisfied; and Mr. Bock's government, as we know, asked the support of the Powers and got it, but he himself ignored the Ministers as completely as he did the missionaries. If he had insisted on such adequate terms as Mr. Gardner obtained at Wusueh, the Ministers would have helped him to get them. But the matter is not yet ended. The deputation that has gone to Peking has been well received by the Ministers and the missionaries there, and there is good hope that it will yet get justice done. The Foreign Ministers cannot stultify themselves as they would do if they retired contented with Mr. Bock's settlement.

Dip
Archives File

DIPL...
APR 7 1894

No 1811.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 19th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 7 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

The Sungpu murders.

Synopsis

Yamên's answer to Mr. Denby's despatch of 2nd instant.

One enclosure.

No 1811.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 19th 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1803, of the 5th instant, I enclosed a copy of my communication sent as dean of the diplomatic corps to the Tsungli Yamên, relating to the "Sungpu murders". I have now the honor to enclose a translation of the Yamên's answer thereto.

1811

The Yamên states that

"the

"the manner in which this
"case has been dealt with
"was reported verbally by
"some of the ministers of the
"Yamên to the minister of the
"United States, on the 6th day
"of December last, who
"regarded it as satisfactory
"and consented to telegraph
"Mr. Consul General Bock to
"speedily bring the matter to
"a close".

This statement is erroneous and misleading, as will appear from a note appended to the enclosure which is attested by the interpreter of this legation.

The general tone of the Yamên's

answer

answer is satisfactory, but it is not very explicit.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby

No 8 of February 13th 1894.

Enclosure in No 1811.

The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby.

No 8. February 13th 1894.

The Prince and Ministers, on the 2nd of February, had the honor to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States, with reference to the murder of two Swedish missionaries at Sungpu, wherein he stated that the dreadful crime committed against two inoffensive men has awakened in the minds of foreigners, resident in the province of Hupeh and elsewhere in China, doubts as to the good faith of the local officials as to affording protection to foreigners, and insufficient punishment inflicted for one murder is a direct encouragement to those who plan others; that protection to foreigners is guaranteed

by

by the treaties; that the decree of the Emperor, of the 13th June 1891, has not evidently received all the publicity that is desirable and it is demanded that it be posted anew in public places in the provinces bordering on the Yangtse. Further, attention is called to the condition of those native Chinese of Sungpu who have been deprived of their property, driven from their houses, imprisoned, beaten for no cause except that they rendered services or did acts of friendliness to the two unfortunate Swedes, and it was earnestly requested that the Prince and Ministers will procure that these outcasts may be allowed to return to their homes and will cause to be restored to them their houses and goods of which they have been most unjustly

deprived

deprived - Such an act of justice would receive the commendation and applause of all right-minded men in China and elsewhere, etc.

In reply, the Prince and Ministers would observe that the circumstances attending the murder of these missionaries at Sungpu were very pitiable. The sum of 10.000 taels indemnity has been paid (to the families) of each of the murdered men, besides the sum of 12.000 taels for loss of personal effects. The above amounts have been received by Mr. Bork, the Consul General for Sweden. It has been decided that the instigators and principal offenders, Li Kao-pa and Tsai Chuan-fu, should suffer death by strangulation. The accessory criminals, Li Fu-ya, Lin Yü-cheng, Chu Ying, Wu Chih-tai, Chên Kuan-shou and Lin Kuan-tsan,

Lane

have also been punished - some beaten with the bamboo and others condemned to banishment. The above are severe forms of punishment as laid down in the code.

The Governor General of Hukuang has already memorialized the throne, announcing a settlement of the case, which is a matter of record.

The manner in which this case had been dealt with was reported verbally by some of the ministers of the Yamên to the minister of the United States, on the 6th of December last, who "regarded it as satisfactory", and consented to telegraph Mr. Consul General Bork to speedily bring the matter to a close.

In the communication under review it is stated in terms that foreigners resident in the province of Hupeh and elsewhere

in

in China have doubts as to
the good faith of local officials
as to affording protection to them,
and insufficient punishment
inflicted for one murder is a
direct encouragement to those
who plan others etc. etc. It
would seem that these persons
could not have thoroughly
understood the circumstances
of the severe form of punishment
that had been inflicted on the
criminals in this case, hence
the views as expressed by them.
Hereafter in the matter of
protecting foreigners there will
be positively no other than a
sincere purpose displayed in
the action taken.

In regard to the decree formerly
promulgated by His Majesty
the Emperor, the Prince and
Ministers have to say that the
Yamen has addressed the Minister
Superintendent of Southern Trade

as

as well as the Viceroy of the Hukuang provinces, to have it posted in places bordering on the Yangtse, to the end that it may be generally and thoroughly known.

As to the point raised with reference to Chinese residents of Sungpu who had rendered services or did acts of friendliness to the missionaries and who had been deprived of their property, driven from their homes, imprisoned and beaten, the Prince and Ministers have to say that nothing has been received from the Governor General of Hukuang on the subject, hence the Yamên has no means of knowing about it. Perhaps, when the Sungpu affair occurred, other cases may have arisen among the people which were investigated at the same time. This, however, is

not

not known to the Yamên.
Having received the communication
of the Minister of the United
States, it is right that the Yamên
should address the high
authorities of Hupeh that if
any innocent men have, by
mistake, been driven from their
homes or imprisoned or punished,
they should at once be released
and their property and houses
restored to them.

On receipt of a report from
the Viceroy of Hukuang on the
subject the Prince and Ministers
will again address the Minister
of the United States.

Note

The Minister of the United
States denies that he stated
to the Ministers of the Yamên
who came to see him, the 6th
of December last, that he regarded

the

the settlement "as satisfactory". He distinctly refused to do or say anything in the matter except to send to Consul General Bock the following telegram:

"Yamen desires me to say
"on account condition of
"affairs Sungpu cannot
"consent missionaries go
"there now. Hereafter
"population peaceful can
"be assured."

(Sig'd) Charles Denby.

Attest:
(Sig'd) J. D. Cherkine

Dispatch from Peking

Desby No 1

Pamphlet Letter June 19-94

No 1812.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 7 1894

Retd. June 21.

Legation of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 7 1894
RECEIVED

Peking, February 20th, 1894.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The sixtieth anniversary of the Empress Dowager's birthday

Synopsis

Official notification of the celebration of this event on Nov. 7th 1894.

Two enclosures.

No 1812.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 20th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 1757, of November 8th last, I had the honor to inform you that the sixtieth anniversary of the birth of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager would be celebrated with great eclat, the 7th of next November.

I enclose a translation

1
812 of the official notification of

this

this event, with a copy of
2/1812 my answer thereto.

It is understood that some of the European powers will send presents on this occasion. I forbear to make any suggestion as to whether the President should do so, or should confine himself to sending congratulations. Before deciding such a question, it seems to me that it would be proper to take into account the consideration, or want of it, that may be shown to foreign representatives in connection with the court ceremonies. As this subject has not been taken up, I

must

must postpone any opinion until I shall learn what the programme in that regard is to be.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. The Tsungli Yamên to Mr. Denby No 9, February 17th 1894.
2. Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamên No 10, February 20th, 1894.

Enclosure 1 in No 1812.

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. Denby.

No 9. February 17th, 1894.

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to state that on the 7th of November next the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the birthday of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager will take place — a felicitous occasion which will cause rejoicing and the offer of congratulations throughout the empire.

His Majesty the Emperor of China will take the initiative and followed by the officials and the people of the empire, at the appointed time, will implore blessings for Her Majesty and present their congratulations in honor of the event.

The relations between the

United

United States and China have for a long period been of the most friendly nature and it is natural and right that an official announcement should be made of the coming event. The Prince and Minister have, therefore, written to the Chinese Minister at Washington to address the Honorable Secretary of State in the matter and, as in duty bound, send this communication for the information of the Minister of the United States.

A necessary communication addressed to

His Excellency

Charles Denby,

etc. etc. etc.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1812.

Mr. Denby to the Tsungli Yamen.

No. 10. February 20th 1894.

The Minister of the United States has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the communication of the Prince and Ministers, of the 17th instant, wherein they inform him that the sixtieth anniversary of the birthday of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager will take place on the 7th of November next, a felicitous occasion which will cause rejoicing and the offer of congratulations throughout the empire.

The Prince and Ministers further state that His Majesty the Emperor of China will take the initiative and followed by the officials and people of the empire, at the appointed time, will implore blessings for Her

Majesty

Majesty and present their congratulations in honor of the event.

The Minister of the United States is in entire harmony with the government and people of China in appreciation of the great and interesting occasion which will be celebrated at the time specified. Her Majesty the Empress Dowager will stand in history as one of the greatest characters that the world has ever known. She ruled over China during a novel and disturbing period, and the Minister of the United States, who had the honor to represent his country during the last years of her glorious reign, rejoices in being able to bear personal testimony to her benignity as well as to her greatness.

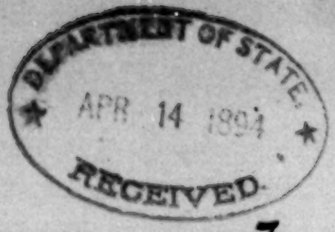
Besides sending this acknowledgement

of

of the communication of the Envoys and Ministers, the Minister of the United States will transmit to his Government a copy thereof.

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 21st, 1894.



—Wm. F. Cheshire—

to the

—Secretary of State.—

—Subject—

Enclosing duplicate statement of account for salary and account for loss by Exchange for quarter ended December 31st, 1893.

———— — — — ————

T. L.

Separate. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 21st, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose
1/— duplicate statement of my account
2/— for salary and account for Loss
by Exchange for the quarter ended
December 31st, 1893.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

J.D. Cheshire.

Interpreter of Legation.

Enclosure 2.

Duplicate Statements as above.

Desp. by subject Siam

DIPLOMATIC BUR.
APR14 1894

No. 1813.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 24th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 14 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Commission of Mr. Kin Ching
Chung returned.

Mr Faison:—

It appears that this has been returned because the Dept did not think it advisable to appoint Chinese subjects to such places. The case arose at Savannah where Mr. Pedlar was instructed to name some other person.

Please take this communication with your despatch to Consular Bureau

Crider

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 14 1894

No 1813.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 24th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Refering to my despatch No 1756, of March 19th 1893, and to the Department's despatch No 776, of February 25th 1893, I have the honor to return, herewith, the commission of Mr. Yin Ching Chung, appointed United States Deputy Consul at Amoy but whose recognition was never requested.

I

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

No 1814.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 14 1894
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 26th, 1894.

— Mr. Charles Denby —

to the

— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —

Enclosing Statement of Account for furniture purchased for new Government offices.

No 1814. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 26th, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose
1814. a statement of the account for
furniture purchased by me for
the new Government Office under
telegraphic authority from your
dated August 19th 1893.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby

T. M.

Enclosure 1-
Statement as above

10

ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

MAR 1 1894

TELEGRAM ~~RAM~~ RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU

MAR 1 1894

From Peking

Feby 28, 1894.

Received 9.25 A.M.

Gresham,

Washington

Cab'gram

Ask home leave. See

dispatch 1778

Denby

No 1815.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 14 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 28th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 14 1894
RECEIVED

Rec'd. Apr. 25. 94

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Asks for United States Reports

№ 1815.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 28th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that the series of United States Reports in the library of this legation is complete up to and including volume № 140. Should the Department approve, it would be a great advantage to the legation to receive the subsequent

volumes

volumes up to date.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Desp
Acknd to Pile

No 1816.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR14 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 3rd, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 14 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Confirms telegrams regarding leave.

No. 1816.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 3rd, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to confirm my telegram of the 28th ultimo as follows:

"Gresham, Washington,

"Ask home leave see

"despatch 1778.

"Denby."

and to acknowledge receipt of the Department's telegram in answer thereto — which

reached

reached me at 3½ o'clock March 2nd — as follows:

"Denby, Peking,

"Leave granted as asked

"Adee Actg."

I will inform you of the exact time of my departure from Peking.

I return profound thanks for the kindness shown me.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Dip

Ackly No Date

No 1817. Books sent to Bureau as written Oct 1894

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 28 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 12th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 23 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Forwards Customs publication

Customs Gazette
Received & filed
in Bureau of Statistics
April 23 1894

No 1817.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 12th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward to you, under separate cover, copies in duplicate of the following publications of the Imperial Maritime Customs viz. List of the Chinese Lighthouses etc. for 1894; Medical Reports for the Year Ended 31st March 1890; Medical Reports for the half-year ended 30th September 1890

Rec'd from State Dept

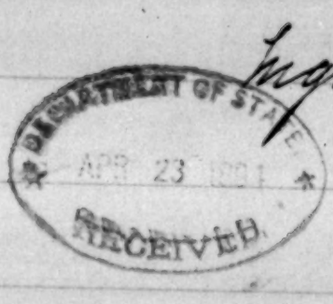
To War & Marine Depts

To Bureau of Statistics
Treas. Dept
To Statistical Bureau of State Dept

1890; Customs Gazette October-December 1893.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

No 1818.



Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 16th, 1894.

—Mr. Charles Denby—
to the
—Secretary of State—

—Subject.—

Enclosing duplicate statement of account for furniture purchased for Legation offices.

No 1818. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 16th, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to
enclose duplicate statement
1818. of the account for Furniture
purchased for the use of the
Government officers of this Legation.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby.

T. M.

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

Dip
Inclosure

Vacp above 24-

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 23 1894

C

No. 1819.

COPIED FOR CONGRESS.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 16th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 23 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Condition of public affairs in China

Synopsis
The minister being about to leave makes some observations thereon.

No 1819.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 16th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Being about to leave Peking, I desire to make a few observations touching the present condition of public affairs in China.

The discussion of the Sungpu murder cases has ceased, awaiting final action of the local authorities as to the return of the refugees to Sungpu.

I have no case in which Americans are interested pending here, but it is likely that a question may come up from Hankow involving the right of two naturalized Swedes to buy property at Fan Shun in Hupeh.

I have heard incidentally that there has been a recent riot near Canton, in which the property of the American Presbyterian Mission was destroyed, but no one was injured. Should this case not be settled locally, it will come to the legation. I have heard nothing officially of this affair.

2t

It is impossible to foresee the outbreak of riots in this country but, as there has been recently a serious discussion on the subject between the Yamên and the foreign ministers, I think that the approaching summer will be quiet.

The question of the right of foreigners to import machinery into China has not been definitely settled. At a meeting of the foreign representatives held the 12th instant, it was decided to again address the Yamên on the subject.

The Department has already been informed that the sixtieth anniversary of the birthday

of

of the Empress Dowager will be celebrated the 7th of next November (See my despatches No 1757 of Nov. 8th last and No 1812 of the 20th ultimo).

It is desirable that the President should send to the Emperor an autograph letter of congratulations on this occasion which the Government of China deems to be very important. As China sent to Great Britain and Germany presents on similar occasions, it is likely that those countries will send presents to the Empress. I have not heard that such action will be taken by any

other

other government.

I am not sufficiently acquainted with the usages of the Department under like circumstances to offer any suggestions as to whether a present should be sent. If I were called upon to express an opinion on the subject, I would be inclined to say that none should be sent.

I leave Peking with regret, but I am put at ease by the reflection that I leave this legation in charge of the first secretary, who is thoroughly capable to discharge the duties that fall to him and who enjoys the absolute

confidence

confidence and respect as well of the Chinese as of the foreigners residing in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Clip

file
Accounts rec'd
Dept of State

No 1820 ✓ rec'd 24 April

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 23 1894

✓ T. again April 28

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 16th 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 23 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Minister's leave

Synopsis

Will leave for Paris the 17th instant. Has turned legation over to first secretary as chargé d'affaires.

No 1820.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 16th 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I will leave Peking tomorrow en route for Paris, France. I am advised that I can be speedily cured of my malady by suitable medical treatment. I cannot procure such treatment here.

My address, until further notice

notice, will be care of the American Embassy, Paris. Leaving Shanghai on the steamer of the Messageries Maritimes the 31st instant, I will reach Paris about the 3rd May.

I have turned the legation over to the first secretary as chargé d'affaires ad interim and ask that he be confirmed in that position. I beg, also, to suggest that credit be opened for him to draw the allowance for the contingent expenses of this legation in London, and that his drafts for repair allowance be duly honored.

I

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

√ and 20 mar

Legation of the United States
Peking, March 17 1894.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAR 17 1894

No. 8.

CABLE MESSAGE.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

ALL CABLE MESSAGES received for transmission must be written on the Message Blanks provided by this Company, for that purpose, under and subject to conditions printed thereon, and on the back hereof, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager. NORVIN GREEN, President.

TWO AMERICAN CABLES FROM NEW YORK TO GREAT BRITAIN.
CONNECTS ALSO WITH FOUR ANGLO-AMERICAN AND ONE DIRECT U. S. ATLANTIC CABLES.
DIRECT CABLE COMMUNICATION WITH GERMANY AND FRANCE.
CABLE CONNECTION WITH CUBA, WEST INDIES, MEXICO AND CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.
MESSAGES SENT TO, AND RECEIVED FROM, ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

OFFICES IN AMERICA:

All Offices (20,000) of the Western Union Telegraph Company and its Connections.

OFFICES IN GREAT BRITAIN:

LONDON:
No. 21 Royal Exchange, E. C.
No. 109 Fenchurch Street, E. C.

LIVERPOOL: A5 Exchange Buildings.
GLASGOW: No. 29 Gordon Street.
BRISTOL: Backhall Chambers.

NUMBER	SENT BY	REC'D BY	No. OF WORDS	FROM
48	Tg		8	Port Arthur

RECEIVED at Washington, D.C. 7:28 pm March 17 1894

Gresham, Washington. (DC)

Minister Denby left today.

Denby, Charge.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 4 1894

No 1821.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 17th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 4 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Ack.d 10th May '94. M

Subject

Minister Denby's departure

Synopsis

Reports Minister Denby's departure and assumption of duties by chargé d'affaires ad interim; confirms telegram and asks authority to draw for contingent expenses and repairs.

Mr Kuckhoefer

See last paragraph Especially Mr Eddy

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU

MAY 4 1894

Mr. Fidler,

Authority to draw on the Secretary of State for $18 for Contingent expenses, and for the repairs to the Legation during the absence of the Minister, has already been granted to the Charge

Granted by Dept. May 4

Reply

F. Kuckhoefer

May 4. 1894.

To necessity for a special letter of credit on London Bankers. Hearthcoming

No 1821.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 17th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Minister Denby left Peking today, by virtue of the leave of absence granted him in your telegram of the 1st instant, leaving this legation in my charge as chargé d'affaires ad interim. On the 15th instant, Mr. Denby presented me, in

this

No 1822.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 23rd, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circulars of January 27th and February 1st respectively, directing replies to certain interrogatories as to coinage etc. of the precious metals to be forwarded to the Director of the Mint.

In reply, I have the honor

to

to state that I have this date forwarded to the Director of the Mint the desired information, as far as it could be obtained. As I was able to reply at once to all interrogatories of the circular, it was not necessary to forward separately replies to interrogatories Nos 7 and 8.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

Dip
Reply rec'd

File

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 4 1894

No 1823.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 26th, 1894.



Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Encloses reply from Yamen to notification that he had taken charge.

One enclosure.

No 1823.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 26th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a copy of the reply of the Yamên to my despatch advising them that I had taken charge of this legation as chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

1/823

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires

Enclosure:

Note as above.

Enclosure in No. 1823.

The Kungli Yamen to Mr. Denby Jr.
Chargé d'Affaires.

No. 11. March 24th 1894.

Upon the 17th instant, the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive a communication from the Chargé d'Affaires of the United States to the effect that His Excellency Col. Denby, Minister of the United States, had obtained leave of absence to return to the United States, and that the Legation had been handed over to him and that he had assumed charge as Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to state, in reply, that they have duly perused the communication under acknowledgement, which has caused them sincere gratification and pleasure. They would

observe

observe that the Honorable
Chargé d' Affaires is well
known to transact bisiness
in an even tempered spirit
and, as a matter of course, the
intercourse and relations of the
two countries will continue
to be carried on with an increased
spirit of friendliness.

Dip

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 27th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 4 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Salary accounts.

two enclosures.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 27th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, my account for salary as secretary of this Legation from January 1st to March 16th inclusive, viz. from the first day of this quarter to the date of my assumption of duty as chargé d'Affaires ad interim. I have also the honor to enclose my account for gain by exchange on salary

Draft

draft.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Secretary of Legation.

T. M.

Enclosures: Accounts as above.

No 1824.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 12 1894
RECEIVED.

— Wm Charles Denby Jr —

to the

— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing Salary Account of Minister Denby for the Quarter Ended March 31st, 1894.

———

No 1824. One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the account for salary of Minister Denby for the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

T. M.

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

No 1825.



Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 1st, 1894.

— Wm. Charles Denby Jr. —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —
Enclosing Statement of Contingent
Expenses for the quarter ended
March 31st, 1894.

———— - - - ————

No 1825 One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Contingent Expenses &c of this Legation for the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'affs

T. M.

Enclosure 1- Statement as above.

No 1826.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 12 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 1st, 1894.

— Mr. Charles Denby Jr. —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —
Enclosing Statement of Rent
account of this Legation for
quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

——— - - - ———

No 1826. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States
Peking, April 1st, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to
enclose a statement of the Rent
account of this Legation for
the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Chas. Denby Jr.
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

Enclosure 1. M.
Statement as above.

No 1827.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 12 1894
RECEIVED

— Wm. Charles Denby Jr. —

to the

— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing statement of Passports issued during the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

No 1827. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Passports issued at this Legation during the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

Separate.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 7th, 1894.

— Wm. F. D. Chester —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing Statement of salary account for quarter ending March 31st, 1894.

Separate One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 7th, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham.
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for salary for the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
F.D. Sheshire.
Interpreter of Legation

T. M.

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

No 1828.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 11th, 1894.

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Furnishing of Legation Offices

Synopsis

Allowance of $500 drawn for.

T. M

№ 1828.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 11th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge, with profound thanks, your despatch № 857, of the 14th February last, allowing $500 to complete the furnishing of the Legation offices. I have this day drawn on you at fifteen days sight for this sum. The requisite articles of furniture will be purchased as occasion

offers

and an account thereof will be duly furnished.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires.

ip

Transmitted to Treasury May 29.

No 1829.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 28 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 12th, 1894.

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Admeasurement of vessels.

No 1829.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 12th, 1890.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In reply to your despatch No 855, of the 7th February, I have the honor to state that there have been no changes in the laws and regulations of China, concerning the admeasurement of vessels since October 17th 1889.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

No 830.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States
Peking April 18th 1894.

— Wm. Chas. Denby Jr. —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing Minister Denby's account
for loss by Exchange for Quarter
Ended March 31st 1894.

No 1830. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 13th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of Minister Denby's account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

T.M.

6

No 1830. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 13th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of Minister Denby's account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

T.M.

No 1831.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 13th 1894.

— Mr. Charles Denby Jr. —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject —

Enclosing Statement of Expenditures
Account for Quarter Ended March
31st 1894.

No 1831. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 13th 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Repairs Account of this Legation for the quarter ending March 31st 1894.

1831.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d' Affaires ad interim

T.M.

Enclosure 1. Statement as above

No 1832.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 13th, 1894.

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Salary account.

T. M.

One enclosure.

No 1832.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 13th, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose my account for salary as chargé d'Affaires ad interim of this legation from March 17th to March 31st inclusive, being from the date of my assuming charge until the last day of the quarter. Against this account I have drawn on you at fifteen days sight and I request that

1/832

that my draft be honored.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires

ad interim.

Enclosure:

Salary account.

Ark. Ltr
Acknowledged
No 1833.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 28 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 14th, 1894.

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Ex-Secretary of State Foster's visit to Peking.

No 1833.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 14th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the Honorable John W. Foster, ex-Secretary of State, has recently visited Peking. He arrived here on the 30th March and remained until the 9th April, during which time he was the guest of this legation. I presented Mr. Foster to the members of the Tsungli

Yamên

Yamen, by whom he was courteously received. He was the recipient of much attention at the hands of the Chinese officials and of the representatives of the foreign powers in Peking.

At Tientsin, Mr. Foster exchanged calls with the viceroy Li Hung-chang, by whom a banquet was given, on the 12th instant, in his honor. The viceroy also placed a special train at his disposal to visit the government coal mines at Kaiping and the Great Wall at Shan Hai Kuan.

Mr. Foster leaves Tientsin the 17th instant for Japan, whence, after a month's stay,

he

he sails for America.

I have the honor to be,—

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires

ad interim.

No 1834.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 16th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

—Wm. Hunter Lindley Jr.—
to the
—Secretary of State.—

—Subject.—
Enclosing duplicate statement
of Minister Lindley's salary account
for quarter Ended 31st March
1894.

———————

No 1834 One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 16th, 1894

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to Enclose duplicate statement of the Salary Account of Minister Denby for the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

1834.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires

T. M.

Enclosure 1. Duplicate Statement as above.

No 1835.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 16th, 1894.

—Wm. Charles Dudley Jr.—
to the
—Secretary of State—

—Subject.—
Enclosing duplicate trust account for quarter Ended March 31st, 1894.

No 1835. one enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 16th, 1894

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose
duplicate statement of the Rent
Account of this Legation for the
quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

1835.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires

ad interim

T. M.

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

No 1836.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 16th, 1894.

— W. Charles Denby Jr. —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject. —
Enclosing duplicate returns
of passports issued during
quarter Ended March 31st 1894.

No 1836. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 16th, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate returns of passports issued at this Legation during the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

1836.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
Chas. Denby Jr.
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

Enclosure 1- Duplicate Statement as above.

No 1837.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 16th, 1894.

—Wm. Charles Denby jr.—
to the
—Secretary of State—

—Subject.—
Enclosing duplicate statement
of the Contingent Expenses
account for the quarter
Ended 31st March 1894.

———————

No 1837 one enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 16th 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of the account for Contingent Expenses for the quarter Ended March 31st 1894.

1837.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

T. M.

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 20th, 1894.

— Wm. F. Sheehan —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing statement of account for Loss by Exchange for quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

Separate. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 20th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham

Secretary of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for hourly Exchange for the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

F.D. Cheshire.

Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

T.M.

Separate.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 20th, 1894.

— Wm. F. D. Cheshire —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject. —
Enclosing duplicate statement
of salary account for quarter
ended March 31st, 1894.

Separate. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 20th, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose duplicate statement of my salary account for the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.
J.D. Cheshire.
Interpreter of Legation

T. M.

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 29 1894

No 1838.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 21st, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Mr. Kemper's recognition as Consul at Amoy.

Synopsis

Mr. Kemper's recognition has been asked and Mr. Hoge's commission is returned.

Mr. Faison

Please dispose of the Consular Service Commission of Mr. Hoge and return this dispatch.

Adler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 21 1894

One enclosure.

No 1838.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 21st, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No 862, of the 3rd ultimo, enclosing the commission of Mr. Delaware Kemper, of Virginia as Consul of the United States at Amoy.

I have the honor to state that I have asked for Mr. Kemper's recognition and will approve him

him thereof when granted.

1/1858

I enclose, herewith, the commission of J. Hampton Hogg, which was sent to him at Amoy but which was never delivered.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Chas. Denby Jr.
Chargé d'Affaires
ad interim

Enclosure:
Mr. Hogg's commission.

Archive File

C

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 1 1901
RECEIVED

COPIED FOR CONGRESS.

No 1839.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 23rd, 1894.

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Summer resort of Nanking missionaries

Synopsis

The American missionaries at Nanking petition the Legation to secure them the privilege of residing at the hills during the summer. Mr. Denby approves their request and has addressed the Yamên.

No 1839.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 23rd, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report to you a difficulty in which the American missionaries at Nanking find themselves as to the privilege of residing, during the summer, at the hills adjacent to that city.

In a petition to me, they represent that they number

over

over fifty persons, amongst whom are many women and children. They state that to remain during the summer months within the city walls is dangerous to their health, but that the hills in the immediate neighborhood afford a convenient and suitable resort. During the summer of 1893, they constructed huts in this locality, with the consent of the owners of the soil, and prepared to live there, but the Viceroy at Nanking, hearing of this intention, refused his assent, claiming that outside the city their lives would be

in

in danger and that they would be beyond the reach of his protection. Constrained by his orders and threats, they abandoned their summer houses and returned to the city. This year they asked again to be allowed to go to the hills and were again refused. The interivention of the United States consul at Chinkiang in their behalf was fruitless, his notes on the subject not even having been answered. Under these circumstances they appeal to me.

The facts of this case seem to be as follows.

It is certainly true that continued residence within the walls of Chinese cities during the heated season is accompanied with great discomfort and some danger to health. The proprietors of the hillside which the Nanking missionaries wish to occupy are willing to rent to them, and the people in the vicinity would gladly have them come because of the small trade that they bring with them. The assertion that they would be in danger is a mere pretext. Should, however, actual danger threaten, the hill is only three miles distant from the

Viceroy's

Viceroy's yamên, and protection could easily be extended. The missionaries assert that, under any circumstances, a tent of four soldiers would guarantee their safety and the cost of these they are prepared to pay.

In view of these circumstances, and in view of the fact that throughout China foreigners are allowed to resort at pleasure to the hills adjacent to the cities where they live, I have asked the Yamên to extend this privilege to the missionaries at Nanking, and to post a proclamation in the locality for their protection while

there

there.

The general right of the missionaries to reside at Nanking is not involved in this dispute. Their residence there has long been uncontested and they have as good a prescriptive right to remain there as at any place in China. The trouble seems to be simply a desire on the part of the viceroy to cause them inconvenience. Should they attempt to rent land without his authorization, the proprietors would probably be prevented by intimidation from renting or if they rented they would become the objects

of

of his persecution. Otherwise the simplest solution of the difficulty would be for them to disregard the Viceroy altogether and insist on their privilege as bearers of passports to reside temporarily where they wish. Many privileges may be had in China by taking them which are refused when asked for.

Hoping, however, that the Yamên will overcome the Viceroy's opposition, I have not recommended such a course. The Yamên have referred the case to him and, upon receipt of his reply, the matter will be further reported to you with

copies

copies of the correspondence.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires

ad interim

COPIES BUREAU
DIPLOMED FOR CONGRESS
JUN 2 1894

No 1840. Reply to Pile

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 23rd, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 1 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Duties on Chinese "curios"

Synopsis

Encloses copies of correspondence between Legation and Tientsin Consulate as to the distinction between chinaware and curios for tariff purposes.

Four enclosures.

No 1840.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 23rd, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, copies of certain correspondence between this Legation and the United States Consulate at Tientsin.

4
1840

The question involved was what constitutes a curiosity as distinguished from chinaware for tariff purposes

purposes. As pointed out in my reply to the Consul, this distinction, while difficult to formulate, presents no difficulty in practice. The Inspector General had, in fact, never formulated any rule for this distinction and I did not feel at liberty to ask him to do so. A hard and fast rule might as often work hardship to the exporter as to the Chinese revenue.

It is difficult to designate any particular quality of a piece of porcelain which constitutes it a "curiority" within the meaning of the

Customs

Customs tariff. This not
antiquity alone for much
of the common chinaware of
this country is of great age
but must be classed as chinaware
still. Nor is it artistic
excellence alone, for many of
the products of the modern
kiln are of great artistic beauty.
The element of rarity goes
far to make a "curio" but not
this alone. The best plan would
seem to be to follow the customs
of trade. What curio-dealers
buy and sell as curios may
justly be expected to pay duty
as such when shipped from
China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires

ad interim

Enclosures:

1. Mr. Read to Mr. Denby

April 6th 1894.

2. Mr. Read to Mr. Detring

April 3rd 1894.

3. Mr. Detring to Mr. Read April 4th 1894.

4. Mr. Denby to Mr. Read. April 12. 1894.

Enclosure 1 in No 1840.

Copy

Mr. Read, U. S. Consul Tientsin
to
Mr. Denby Jr., Chargé d'Affaires.

No 11. April 6. 1894.

Sir:

I have the honor to call your attention to the enclosed copies of the correspondence that has recently transpired between the Hon. Commissioner of Customs at this port and myself.

Notwithstanding that the Commissioner's reply seems fair and satisfactory, it is yet my opinion that this matter, to be definitely settled for the guidance of our citizens who may in future buy porcelaines in Peking or in Tientsin, should be placed by the Legation, with such views as you may see fit to express, in the matter, before His Excellency the Inspector General of Customs.

I am, etc.,
(s'g'd) Sheridan P. Read,
U. S. Consul.

Enclosure 2 in No 1840

Copy

Mr. Read U. S. Consul Tientsin

to

Mr. Detring Commissioner of Customs.

Tientsin April 3rd 1894.

Sir:

On representations from Edward Runge Esq., an American citizen, and the agent of T. B. Clarke of New York, who is a purchaser in China of certain fine porcelaines, I understand that an ad valorem duty on some thirty three cases of fine Chinese porcelaines destined for the New York market, has been exacted from Mr. Runge by the Imperial Chinese Customs, as represented by yourself in Tientsin.

In looking into this matter, I should say that according to tariff classification and rates as regulated by treaty, fine porcelaine is dutiable only on

a

a weight basis.

There may be reasons, unknown to me, which have led you to the present ruling in Mr. Runge's case, in which event I should be pleased to be advised of them at your hands.

As the demand in the United States for Chinese porcelains is an increasing one, you will understand that it is desirable to know what constitutes fine porcelains, or Chinaware, and on what grounds an ad valorem duty can be imposed.

Until a satisfactory conclusion has been reached on these points, I herewith enter a protest in behalf of Mr. Runge against the payment of an ad valorem duty by him on the shipment marked

J. B. Clarke, 10-42

New York 33 cases,

and until it can be shown that

I have been ill-advised in this particular case, and that there is no disputed question in regard to the meaning of the tariff, I must venture to beg that this protest remain in force.

I am etc.,

(Sig'd) Sheridan P. Read

U.S. Consul.

Enclosure 3 in No 1840

Copy

Mr. Detring to Mr. Read

Custom House,
Tientsin, April 4, 1894.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant concerning certain fine porcelains purchased by Mr. Edward Runge etc

I have reasons to surmise that your letter under acknowledgement refers to a shipment of sundry curios which were passed at the Customs by Mr. G. Ritter of this port, on the 31st March last, and exported by the S.S. "Liensking" — the name of Edward Runge not being mentioned in the application, but subsequently embodied, as owner of the goods in question, in a protest lodged by the said Mr. G. Ritter with this office.

In reply I have to state for your information:

1° That an ad valorem duty of 5% was levied on the goods referred to because this office holds that old China (or porcelaine antique) does not come under the tariff rates levied on modern Chinaware, fine or coarse, constituting what in the tariff goes under the designation of curiorities or antiques, and as such is subject to an ad valorem duty of five per cent.

2° That the General Tariff appended to the various Commercial Treaties was based on the 5% ad valorem principle, according to which the rates of modern China ware, fine and coarse, were calculated and fixed upon.

3° That antique porcelain, like that exported under the application presented at the Custom House by Mr. G. Ritter, represents a market value of hundred fold the value of its weight, if taken

as

as Chinaware, and that therefore it cannot be passed as such, but has to be treated by the Customs as a curiosity, and to be charged as was done in the case under consideration.

I have etc.,

(s'g'd) Wetring

Commissioner of Customs.

Enclosure 4 in No 1840

Copy

Mr. Denby Jr. to Mr. Read

No 155. April 12th 1894.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No 11, of the 6th instant, covering copies of certain correspondence which you have had with the Commissioner of Customs with reference to duties on goods shipped by Mr. Runge.

I do not understand you to wish to appeal from the decision of the commissioner in this particular case and I think wisely. The customs tariff imposes a duty on "fine chinaware" of 9 mace per 100 catties, and on "coarse chinaware" of 4 mace 5 candareens per 100 catties. "Curiosities" come under an entirely different classification and are subject to a duty of

5%

5% ad valorem. A case might be imagined in which it would be difficult to say when a piece of porcelain ceased for tariff purposes to be "chinaware" and became a "curiosity"; but in practice there is no difficulty. In Mr. Runge's particular case, for instance, how would he speak of his goods — as "chinaware" or "curios"? Does he propose to sell them by the pound or by the piece? Under what designation does he propose entering them into America? His answers to these questions would probably show that his protest against paying the 5% ad valorem duty was not well founded.

The Inspector-General of Customs has never formulated a rule for the distinction of porcelain curiosities from chinaware and I have not urged him to do

(6)

because I am convinced
that there will be no practical
difficulty in making this
distinction in each case as
it arises.

I am etc.,
(Sig'd) Chas. Denby Jr.
Chargé d'Affaires
ad interim

Requisition to Mr Griffin June 1, 94

Recd June 2

No 1841.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUN 1 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 23d, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 1 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Charles Denby Jr.

to the

Secretary of State

Subject.

Indent for Stationery

No 1841.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 23d, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q Gresham.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to request the Department to be good enough to send this Legation the usual supply of stationery; also four flags - two 10 @ 12 feet and two 20 @ 24 feet.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Chas. Denby Jr.
Chargé d'Affaires
ad interim

Clip

No 1842. April " June 18.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUN 9 1894

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 24th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 1 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Chas. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The importation of machinery.

Synopsis

Renewed protests on the part of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce. Attitude of the foreign ministers on the subject.

One enclosure.

No 1842.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 24th, 1894.

To the Honorable
Walter Q. Gresham,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Under date of the 29th ultimo, the Senior Consul at Shanghai forwarded to the Russian Minister, Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps at Peking, a protest by the Chamber of Commerce against a notice published by the Customs, with reference to the importation of machinery into China.

His

1/1842

This notice, of which I enclose a copy, sets forth that machinery intended for the Chinese Government may be landed after special certificates have been issued therefor. As to other machinery, that which "endangers neither the lives nor "the means of livelihood of the "Chinese" is permitted to be imported; while that which does endanger either the lives or means of livelihood of Chinese, and is not a tariff article, may not be imported.

The Chamber of Commerce protests against this notice as being a violation of treaty. The Senior Consul, on behalf of

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the Consular Body, likewise protests against the notice and urges the Diplomatic Corps to demand that it be immediately withdrawn, in order that the treaties may be respected and no further injury be done to the commerce of Shanghai.

A meeting of the Diplomatic Corps was held, on the 10th instant, for the consideration of this letter and for a discussion of the attitude that the foreign representatives should take upon the general question. The foreign representatives were unanimous in their conviction that China's prohibition of the importation of machinery constitutes a violation

of

of treaty, but further argument with the Yamên at present is regarded as useless. It was agreed that the subject had been fully discussed in correspondence between Col. Denby, as Doyen, and the Yamên, and that nothing further could be added to the arguments advanced.

The Chinese Government has already been notified that the foreign representatives will hold it financially responsible for losses arising by reason of its action.* It was accordingly decided by the Diplomatic Body that in every case in which a permit to land machinery is refused, a protest be

* See Mr. Denby to the Department No 1787 January 13th 1894.

be made against the refusal as a violation of treaty and a demand be made for damages. It is believed that ultimately the government will be forced to recede from its position and that all just claims for damages will be paid. I concur in this decision the more readily that no permits to land machinery have, as yet, been applied for by American merchants.

The action of the Chinese Government in this matter might enlist our sympathy were it really dictated by a mistaken idea of protecting

the

the people's means of livelihood. This, however, merely an attempt to protect, at all hazards, certain official monopolies. The rules promulgated by the Customs are very elastic and may be made to carry any meaning. The Ministers of the Yamên, being urged to designate what classes of machinery might injure the people, took refuge in the general statement that all machinery for the manufacture of native products would be so regarded.

Though much present annoyance will be caused to foreign merchants, the Yamên's position

position is untenable and must, I am convinced, be ultimately abandoned.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Chas. Denby Jr.
Chargé d'Affaires
ad interim

Enclosure:
Notice ported at Custom House Shanghai re importation of machinery.

Enclosure in No 1842.

Copy of Notice posted in the Custom House at Shanghai re importation of machinery.

A. Machinery arriving brought by China or by Foreign Merchants for China and with special certificates is permitted to be imported.

B. Machinery tracked in by Foreign Merchants on their own account and which endanger neither the lives nor the means of livelihood of Chinese is permitted to be imported, and if not an article enumerated in the tariff pays ad valorem duty of 5%.

C. Machinery tracked in by Foreign Merchants on their own account, but which endanger either the lives or means of livelihood of Chinese and is not a tariff article is not permitted to be imported.

Dip

No. 1843. Copy to Treasury with copy of pamphlet June 5 '94

2 Long

Copy
Duplicate filed in Bureau of Statistics

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 26th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 1 1894
RECEIVED

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The trade of China for 1893

No 1843.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 26th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The Customs Returns of Trade report rather unfavorably upon the trade of China for 1893. The decrease in the sterling value of the tael, which dropped in Shanghai during the year from 3 s. 10 7/8 d to 3 s. 2 d. and has since gone much lower, demoralized all

Commerce

commerce. The anticipations of those who predicted that cheap silver would stimulate exports have been disappointed because its instability prevented merchants from entering into contracts. The appreciation of gold, on the other hand, ruined the import trade.

The effect of these disturbing conditions is well shown in the customs revenue. The collection for 1893 was HK Tls. 21.989.300*, or HK Tls 699.754 less than during 1892. This falling off was chiefly in opium dues, transit duties and duties on imports. There was

* The Haikwan tael is equivalent to $0.96 American gold at the average sight exchange on New York for 1893.

was a slight counter-balancing gain in export duties of 111.337 taels and in tonnage dues of 19.510 taels.

Imports. The first feature of the import trade for 1893 which strikes our attention is the enormous decrease in the quantity of opium imported from India. The attempt of the Indian Government to protect the rupee so enhanced the price of Indian opium on the Chinese market as to place it beyond the reach of a vast number of consumers. The result was a decreased importation of 2.674 piculs.* Indian yarn, for the same reason, experienced a

* The picul is equivalent to 133 1/3 pounds avoirdupois.

a severe check, the quantity having receded from 1.254.400 piculs in 1892 to 937.800 piculs in 1893, a decrease of 316.000 piculs.

Textile fabrics from all gold currency countries disclose a great falling off. The price of grey shirtings, for instance, on the Shanghai market increased 36% over 1892, and there was a consequent decrease of importation of 2.158.000 pieces. Nearly all English and American cotton goods were imported in decreased quantities, while it is noticeable that Japanese cotton goods have made immense advances, showing

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a rise in value over 1892 of 660.400 Hs.

The kerosene oil trade continues to increase by gigantic strides. In 1893, there were imported 9.473.000 gallons of oil more than in 1892, of which increase 4.836.000 gallons was American and 4.637.000 gallons Russian oil. To give some idea of the dimensions of the oil trade, I quote the statistics for 1892 and 1893.

	1892		1893	
	Gallons	Value in taels	Gallons	Value in taels
American oil	31.884.013	3.330.116	36.720.382	4.086.661
Russian oil	8.649.318	872.795	13.286.198	1.484.534
	40.533.331	4.202.911	50.006.580	5.571.195

Large

Large as these figures are, the oil trade of China is yet in its infancy. There are vast districts in which the use of kerosene is unknown but in which it is sure to gradually make its way. The Russian oil is being pushed with great energy. Tanks have been built at Shanghai and tank steamers are to ply regularly between Batoum and the East. The first shipment arrived during the month of March and was safely transferred from the vessel to the tanks. There was some official objection to the landing of the oil but that was overcome and a vast expansion of the

trade

trade will doubtless follow upon its cheapening on the Chinese market.

Looked at as a whole, the most striking feature of the import trade of China for 1893 is the part which the depreciation of silver plays in it. The tael, or ounce of silver, has remained of undiminished purchasing power in the East in the face of a great fall in value as compared with gold. The natural consequence has been that Chinese buyers have increased their purchases in Asiatic markets, where silver retained its former value, and have decreased their purchases where exchange went

against

against them. It requires no great foresight to see what an influence this is going to have in the establishment in this country of factories for the production of many articles hitherto imported from abroad. This tendency is already marked in cotton. Native capitalists are not slow to see that cheap, skilled, silver-paid Chinese labor can turn out cotton here at prices ruinous to foreign manufacturers who pay high wages in gold currency countries. Indications are not wanting that the Chinese laborer, though not admitted in person in foreign countries, may remain

at

at home and yet make his competition terribly felt. No more profitable field for the investment of foreign capital could be found than the establishment of cotton mills in China did not official interference render that, as yet, impossible.

Exports. The value of exports from China shows an increase of Hk. Tls 14.048.000. This increase is made up of tea and silk, and in both these staples it is explained by the fact that exchange has favored exports.

The anticipated repeal of the duty on wool in America

is reported to account for a large decrease in the export of that article. The wool trade between China and America had reached great proportions. In 1892, China shipped to the United States 173.400 piculs of wool. These figures were, however, reduced to 130.000 piculs in 1893, of the value of over 1.300.000 Mk. Hs.

The total value of the trade between China and the United States for 1893 was as follows; imports into China from the United States 5.443.569 Mk. Hs; exports from China to the United States 11.725.644 Mk. Hs. The figures for 1892 were

imports

imports from the United States 6.061.900 Hk. Tls.; exports to the United States 10.784.655 Hk. Tls. The total trade between the two countries shows a gain over 1892 of 322.658 Hk. Tls., which gain was in exports from China. Chinese exports to the United States increased by 940.989 Hk. Tls. and imports from the United States decreased by over 600.000 taels.

Shipping - The shipping statistics for 1893 show that England maintains her supremacy, having more than two thirds of the total tonnage of the trade with China - English vessels to the number of 19.365, having an aggregate

aggregate tonnage of 19.203.978 tons, entered and cleared in 1893. China came next with 6.572.418 tons — counting vessels of foreign type only; Germany third with 1.508.015 tons; Japan fourth; Austria fifth. The United States rank tenth on the list, having 63 vessels entered and cleared with a tonnage of 78.175.

Population. The total foreign population of China is stated to be 9.891 of whom 4.163 are British. The American residents of China are next in number, being 1.336. The number of American firms doing business here is, however, only thirty,

sufficiently

sufficiently showing that it is chiefly in the missionary ranks that Americans are found. The Customs estimate is probably below the mark, as many American missionaries reside in remote localities beyond the reach of a Customs census.

I forward, under separate cover, duplicate copies of the Returns of Trade and Trade Reports for 1893, from which the foregoing statistics are obtained.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

Dip
Aust-Hun Rel

No 1844.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUN 5 1894
COPIED FOR CONGRESS.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 28th, 1894.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 1 1894
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Consular powers of acting consuls.

Synopsis

Has forwarded to Amoy copy of Department's instruction on the subject.

№ 1844.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 28th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q. Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch № 869, of the 22nd ultimo, with reference to the performance of judicial functions by acting consuls.

I have the honor to state that a copy of your despatch has been sent to the United States Consul at Amoy for his

his instruction. He has been advised that the proceedings in the United States vs Edwards heard at Amoy before Dr Grunenwald, Acting United States Consul, are void.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

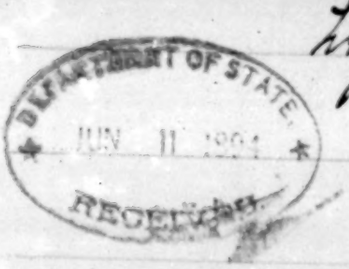
Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d'Affaires

ad interim

No 1845



Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 30th 1894.

— Wm. Charles Denby Jr. —
to the
— Secretary of State. —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of Minister Denby's account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ended March 31st 1894.

(1)

No 1845. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 30th, 1894

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to —

Enclose duplicate statement of
1845 Minister Denby's account for
loss by Exchange for the quarter
ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Chas. Denby Jr.

T.M. Chargé d'Affaires
ad interim

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.



Dispatch

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 11 1894
RECEIVED

No 1846.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 30th, 1894.

— Wm. Charles Denby Jr. —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Enclosing duplicate statement of Repair account for the quarter ended March 31st, 1894.

No 1846. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 30th, 1894.

To the Honorable

Walter Q Gresham,

Secretary of State,

Washington, DC

Sir:—

I have the honor to Enclose
1/1846. duplicate statement of the Repairs
account of this Legation for the
Quarter Ended March 31st, 1894.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Chas. Denby Jr.

Chargé d' Affaires

ad interim

T. M.

Enclosure 1. Duplicate Statement as above.